



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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TO THE COLONIES: NEXT WEEK.

THE ANNUAL SPECIAL ISSUE of the C. & D. to the Colonies falls next week. It is the issue of April 20.

THE PUBLISHER cannot, however, receive advertisements after Tuesday, April 16; he closes for press then.

BUSINESS HOUSES should ensure that they have a thoroughly good advertisement of their products in the issue. The best trade of all is Colonial Trade.

THE CONTENTS of the ISSUE will be appropriate to the occasion, and the circulation will be exceptionally large.

PEACE and REVIVED TRADE are on the horizon. In South Africa we approach to the business *status quo ante bellum*, and industrial pursuits are resuming in the Transvaal; the occupation of China by the nations' forces is to be curtailed with the view to re-establishment of internal trading conditions; and within two months the completion of Australian federation will give an immense impetus to trade in Greater Britain.

So OUR COLONIAL ISSUE comes at the nick of time, and advertisers should not miss it.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, is our Publisher's closing day.

Summary.

A NEW KIND OF CAPSICUM is figured and described on p. 607. MR. C. J. HEWLETT left over 38,000*l.* to his family and others (p. 589).

A POSTCARD COMPETITION *re* the Council election is announced on p. 586.

FAILURES have been heavier than usual in the drug-trade this year (p. 591).

PUBLIC DISPENSERS in the United States need organising and better pay (p. 598).

PARTICULARS of the new Salvador tariff on drugs and chemicals are given on p. 585.

THE TAX on proprietary medicines in the United States has been repealed (p. 584).

SPURIOUS OIL of bitter almonds is rather common at present, Mr. Parry says (p. 588).

PRACTICAL HINTS on wheat-dressings are communicated by Mr. Thos. S. Peables (p. 605).

VIAVI REMEDIES have been analysed by Mr. Carter Bell, whose report is referred to on p. 599.

AN ASTON DOCTOR dispensed *tr. ferri* in place of something else. The patient died (p. 580).

FORFARSHIRE CHEMISTS want the Pharmacy Bill without the curriculum and reciprocity clause (p. 601).

THE DIFFERENCE between "grey" and "gray" produces interesting observations by "Xrayser" (p. 595).

MR. ARTHUR H. COX, SEN., floats into the haven of the pharmaceutical fauna this week as *Avicula pilulifera* (p. 594).

A SERIES of DISPENSING-PAPERS for apprentices and assistants, by Mr. Joseph Ince, is commenced in this issue (p. 606).

THE IRISH PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL is still eager in regard to the illegal sale of poisonous photographic chemicals (p. 590).

STEREOSCOPIC PHOTOGRAPHY is the subject of a communication on p. 602, which will interest pharmaceutical camerists generally.

THE PAISLEY RETAILERS who were summoned in respect to the sale of arsenical borax have obtained their costs from the Town Council (p. 583).

A HOSPITAL SURGEON discusses on p. 605 a subject which hospital-dispensers should have something to say about: it is "the ideal antiseptic."

IN SHOP-HOURS, shop appearance, and friendliness amongst chemists and druggists there is, says Mr. James Reid, an opportunity for reform (p. 599).

IN OUR OBITUARY COLUMN are reported the deaths of Mr. A. K. Bruce, St. Andrews; Mr. W. F. Smith, and Mr. W. R. Warner, sen., of Philadelphia (p. 588).

THE MYSTERIOUS MOTION by Mr. Glyn-Jones which was smothered at the Pharmaceutical Council meeting last week has provoked some emotions in our poet (p. 607).

AN IMPROVED APPARATUS for the application of Gutzeit's arsenic-test was described by Mr. F. C. J. Bird to the Society of Public Analysts last week, and is illustrated on p. 600.

THE ABERDEEN SHERIFF'S SUBSTITUTE added a severe reprimand to the fine or imprisonment which he imposed on a chemist's assistant who has kept open shop there (p. 591).

THE DRUG and CHEMICAL MARKETS have not yet recovered from the holidays, and there is an absence of any special feature. Quinine is neglected; cod-liver oil is considerably lower; and ergot and menthol are easier (p. 608).

SEVERAL COUNCIL CANDIDATES communicate their views. Mr. S. R. Atkins speaks for the retiring councillors, and Messrs. Kemp, Mackenzie, Paterson, Pickering, and Stephenson also write. We give their portraits (pp. 586-7).

OUR EARLY-CLOSING CENSUS is now practically complete, and an article on p. 597 summarises the provisions of Lord Avebury's Bill and gives suggestions for the amendment of Clause 9, which provides a saving for chemists.

THE EXECUTIVE of the British Pharmaceutical Conference at a meeting last week endorsed the appointment of Mr. Braithwaite as the Editor of the *Year-book*, and agreed that the Conference in Dublin should begin on Monday, July 29 (p. 540).

MR. WILLIAM DAY is retiring from the drug-trade, and Mr. Jesse Boot and others have formed a new company to take over Day's Southern and Metropolitan Drug Companies (Limited). A portrait of Mr. Day and particulars of his venture are given on p. 593.

English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Mr. T. A. Pooley, the Essex County analyst, has been unable to find arsenic in any of the sweets, syrups, jams, or beers submitted to him for analysis.

On April 3, Simon Lyon, druggist, Walsall, was fined 20s. and costs for selling camphorated oil which on analysis was found to contain only 6.85 per cent. of camphor.

At Guildford Licensing Sessions last week an off wine-licence was granted to Mr. Woolmer White, chemist and druggist, for premises at 23 Chandos Street, Portsmouth.

Lady Edwina Roberts, who is collecting comforts for the soldiers at the front, has sent to the officer commanding at Pretoria 4,000 cakes of bovril chocolate for general distribution.

At Burnley on April 3 Samuel Fletcher, chemist and druggist, 33 Parker Lane, was fined 10s., including costs, for selling camphorated oil which the public analyst stated was 9 per cent. deficient in camphor.

On April 3, Samuel Fletcher, chemist and druggist, Burnley, was fined 10s., including costs, for selling camphorated oil which the borough analyst certified to be deficient in camphor to the extent of 9 per cent.

At a meeting of the Worcester City Council on Tuesday, it was announced that the owner of Messrs. Anderson & Virgo's property in the Foregate, Worcester, required for street-improvements, had conceded 75% of the rent.

On Tuesday morning a horse, in trying to start a dray-load of mineral waters from an adjoining shop, backed through the window of the shop of Mr. J. Wood, chemist, Ilkeston, causing considerable damage to the window and the stock in it.

In dealing with the annual estimates last week, the Croydon County Council, among other things, sanctioned the payment of 75% for chemicals for the Sanitary Committee, and of 250% for medical appliances, &c., for the Borough Hospital Committee.

Alfred Cecil Morton appeared at Devon Quarter Sessions on April 9 to answer a charge of obtaining sums of money by false pretences from, amongst others, Mr. Toone, chemist, Exmouth. The jury found that no felonious intent was proved, and prisoner was discharged.

Tuberculosis Congress.

The British Congress on Tuberculosis is to be held in the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, W., from July 22 to July 26. The object of the Congress is to exchange the information and experience gained throughout the world as to the available methods of stamping out tuberculosis. The work is divided into four sections:—I. State and Municipal; President, Sir Herbert Maxwell, M.P. II. Medical, including climatology and sanatoria; President, Sir R. Douglas Powell. III. Pathological, including bacteriology; President, Professor Sims Woodhouse. IV. Veterinary (tuberculosis in animals); President, Sir George Brown. Section I. is further divided into five divisions:—(1) Statistical, (2) notification of tuberculosis, (3) influence of housing and aggregation, (4) control of milk and meat supplies, (5) provision of sanatoria. It is also proposed to have a museum of pathology, bacteriology, and public health at the Congress. The address of the Hon. Secretary of the Congress is 20 Hanover Square, W.

Antitoxin-inoculation.

The Medical Officer of the Chelmsford Rural District Council lately reported that during March eighteen cases of diphtheria had been noted. The outbreak at Hanningfield was of an epidemic character, but antitoxin was administered to sufferers and to those brought in contact with infected persons. The children in the infected houses were all given prophylactic doses, and no fresh case had occurred.

A report was lately presented to the Braintree Rural District Council from Dr. Thresh dealing with the treatment of diphtheria. Dr. Black said it was suggested that children in a house affected by diphtheria should be injected with antitoxin as a preventive. It being stated that the Local Government Board would allow such an expense, it was ordered that where necessary antitoxin should be administered.

Sheffield Dispensing.

In his quarterly report to the Sheffield City Council, Mr. A. H. Allen, the public analyst, says that of six mixtures which were directed to be prepared with 90 gr. of sulphate of quinine and 120 gr. of citric acid, three were compounded substantially in accordance with the prescription. One sample contained 116 gr. of sulphate of quinine and 190 gr. of citric acid; another 64 gr. of sulphate of quinine and 122.4 gr. of citric acid; while the third contained only 17.6 gr. of sulphate of quinine and 82.4 gr. of citric acid. Of five mixtures directed to be prepared with iodide of potassium, three were prepared in accordance with the prescription, and the other two were approximately correct.

Pharmacy and Technical Education.

At a meeting of the Blackburn Town Council on April 4 the Technical Instruction Committee reported that the North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association had made application for pharmacy-classes to be held in connection with the technical-education scheme. The Council decided to refer the report back to the Pharmacy Special Subcommittee with an intimation that the Council could not approve of any arrangements which involved restriction of students to the proposed classes.

A Doctor's Mistake.

At Aston, Birmingham, on April 9, an inquest was held on the body of Mary Louisa Davis, aged 12, who died from the effects of a dose of tincture of iron. The girl frequently suffered from nervous headaches, and on April 2 she was brought home from school unwell, and Dr. Smith, who was called in, pronounced it a case of typhoid. A bottle of medicine was obtained from Dr. Smith's surgery, and after the girl was given a tablespoonful of it she became black in the face, and died in agony the following morning. Dr. Prosser, who was called in, was shown the medicine, and declared that it was strong enough to kill anyone. He made a *post mortem* along with Dr. Holmes, and found the mouth, tongue, stomach, and intestines were corroded by the action of the tincture. Dr. Smith stated that after Mr. Davis left his house witness discovered that he had given him a bottle of tr. ferri instead of one, which he now produced, labelled "For Davis's child." He went to Mr. Davis's house at once to make an explanation. The tincture, he explained, was one of which he used gallons in his practice, and he himself had swallowed at least 1 fl. oz., and had felt no ill-effects. The Coroner said Dr. Smith had evidently contributed to the hastening of the child's end, but there was also a certain amount of negligence on the part of the parents, because the fact that the label was upside down was sufficient to induce inquiry, while the bottle was not an ordinary medicine-bottle. Death from misadventure was the verdict of the jury. They added that Dr. Smith ought to have been more careful.

Contracts.

Barnstaple Union.—Mr. J. J. Tremear, chemist and druggist, for cod-liver oil at 4s. 4d. per gal., and quinine at 2s. per oz.

Birmingham Guardians.—Harris & Co. (Limited), Southall Brothers & Barclay (Limited), and Richardson & Co. (Leicester) (Limited), for drugs; Camwal (Limited), Cux-on, Gerrard & Co., Newton, Chambers & Co. (Sheffield), Southall Brothers & Barclay (Limited), and Harris & Co. (Limited), for sundries.

Stone (Staffs).—We find that the firm of Evans & Co., which received the contract for the supply of oil of turpentine and other articles is not Messrs. Evans, Sons & Co., of Liverpool, who did not even put in a tender for the articles.

Yarmouth Isolation Hospital.—Mr. Steward, chemist, Market Place, for drugs.

At a meeting of the South Stoneham Board of Guardians last week, a letter was read from Dr. Knight, of Shirley, asking to be allowed a yearly sum for supplying drugs to pauper patients in his district. He found that the lowest estimate he could place on the drugs supplied by him was from 40% to 45% a year, while the salary was 90%. The Chairman said if they listened to that they would have to do the same to all the other doctors, and the matter was left over until next meeting.

At a meeting of the Ticehurst Board of Guardians on April 4, the Clerk stated that the Local Government Board had communicated with him in regard to the supply of expensive drugs. At Ticehurst, he said, they had no drugs scheduled as such, but at Uckfield the Board had a contract with the medical officer by which cod-liver oil, quinine, and sarsaparilla were put down as expensive medicines. Mr. R. Paine (one of the Guardians) said it was ridiculous to call quinine an expensive medicine, for the price was low and the dose small. Sarsaparilla was "dead," and cod-liver oil only became expensive for constant use, and should be considered a food rather than a medicine. Eventually the Board decided to ask the medical officers to confer with them on the matter.

Chemists in Public Life.

Mr. W. Adams, Dudley Road, Birmingham, has been returned to the Board of Guardians.

Mr. John Bellamy, retired chemist, has been elected an overseer for the parish of Edghaston, Birmingham.

The Leech Memorial.

The memorial to the late Dr. D. J. Leech, of Manchester, is to take the form of an endowment for a chair to be called the Leech Professorship of *Materia Medica* and Therapeutics. A sum of 900*l.* has so far been collected—2,000*l.* is required to carry out the project in an adequate manner.

A Difference of Opinion.

At Yarmouth Police Court on April 3, John Fenton, chemist, in business at Gorleston, was summoned for assaulting and threatening Dr. Edwin Tipple. Cross-summonses had been taken out by defendant against Dr. Tipple and his brother, F. Tipple, for assault. Both Fenton and Dr. Tipple exhibited marks of bruises and scratches on their features when they appeared in court, but Dr. Tipple's solicitor intimated that defendant had apologised to Dr. Tipple, and agreed to withdraw the cross-summonses and pay costs, 2*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* The summonses were thereupon withdrawn.

Fires.

On April 6 fire broke out at the sulphur-plant of Messrs. Muspratt's works of the United Alkali Company, Widnes. The brigade quickly turned out, the fire-boat from Messrs. Gossage's soap-works was also in attendance, and the fire was chiefly confined to the stock, only a small portion of the roof becoming ignited. The men, however, experienced great difficulty in coping with the flames owing to the sulphur-fumes, and the outbreak was not properly got under until a considerable amount of damage had been done to the stock and plant. The origin of the fire is unknown.

A defect in the flue of a stove was the cause of a slight fire on the premises of Mr. W. Flower, chemist and druggist, Beccles, last week. The outbreak was extinguished before it became serious, and damage to the extent of about 5*l.* only was done.

A Medicine-chest Transaction.

Messrs. J. Skewes (Limited), chemists and druggists, 2 Upper Street, Islington, N., send us documents relating to a medicine-chest transaction which they have had with a Mr. Arthur Brigstocke. A man giving this name, and his residence as 42 Holly Street, Manor Park, E., went into Messrs. Skewes's shop with an order for the refilling of a ship's medicine-chest, the value amounting to 6*l.* 10*s.* He tendered in payment a cheque on Lloyds Bank Limited, Haverfordwest, to the value of 8*l.*, and signed "J. H. Jeffries." Mr. J. Skewes, the manager of the company, refused to forward the medicines until the cheque had been cleared, and on March 21 he received a telegram through his own bank in Islington intimating that "J. H. Jeffries" had "no account" at the Haverfordwest branch of Lloyds Bank Limited. He

thereupon wrote to Brigstocke at the address given, but the letter has been returned through the Dead Letter Office, the person being unknown. Subscribers who do business in medicine-chest fitting will please note.

A Holiday Visit.

Mr. J. Wells Wood, chemist, of 92 Green Lanes, Stoke Newington, has had a curious experience at this his latest branch-establishment this week. He has a chemical-manufacture at Well Street, Hackney, a retail shop at Albion Road, and this latest addition in the Green Lanes, which he purchased from Lewis & Burrows (Limited). No one was in residence, and this probably got to the knowledge of the burgling fraternity, because on Easter Monday someone forced a window at the back of the premises and got into the shop. An assistant locked up the shop for a few hours, and when he went back to do business in the evening he found considerable disorder. Very little money had been left in the till, but this was taken, along with about 50% worth of patent medicines—chiefly Carter's liver-pills. Several cheques which were in the desk had been left behind as dangerous, but a number of postage-stamps were annexed.

Alleged Scuffling with Sulphuric.

At Clerkenwell on April 9, Chas. Westbrook Banks (49), "medical tutor," was charged on remand with maliciously throwing sulphuric acid on the person of George Ridgwell. The evidence showed that prosecutor, who is a bailiff's assistant, went to prisoner's house to execute an ejectment-order of the County Court. In the evening prisoner abused the men, and attacked the County Court officer. He then put some powder on the floor and proceeded to pour some fluid from a bottle on the powder, saying he would "blow them up." Ridgwell attempted to take the bottle from Banks, who then threw the contents over him, burning his hands and his clothing. The defence was that on prisoner coming home he found the bailiff's men carelessly handling the dangerous fluids in the surgery. He remonstrated, a struggle ensued, and a bottle of sulphuric acid was upset. Prisoner stoutly denied throwing the acid, and was committed for trial.

Students a-Visiting.

The students of the Pharmaceutical Department at Owens College, Manchester, recently visited the laboratory and warehouses of Messrs. Oldfield, Pattinson & Co., wholesale druggists, Manchester. The large consignments of drugs were specially interesting to the students, and some very fine samples of tragacanth, quassia-wood, saffrafs bark and root, and Saigon cinnamon-bark were noted. The leads of aniseed oil from China, coppers of oil of lemon from Sicily, and the tins of menthol from Japan were also subjects of curiosity. In the laboratory the "Devil" disintegrator at work was keenly watched and admired, as well as the evaporating-tray, the steam-pans with automatic stirring-apparatus, and a small steel-chaser mill for mixing ointments. The students are especially grateful to Messrs. H. K. and L. Oldfield for the pleasure and profit afforded them.

The Week's Poisonings.

During the past week ten fatalities from poisoning have been recorded, eight of these being due to scheduled poisons. Strychnine (one a vermin-killer) caused two, oxalic acid two, and carbolic acid, salts of lemon, laudanum, and chlorodyne the others. The unscheduled list includes one by hydrochloric acid (as usual) and one by phosphorus, the victim in the latter case being a 2-year-old child, who ate a number of matches. Several unsuccessful attempts at suicide have been made, one by a farrier at Lambeth, who took a quantity of sulphate of zinc, and another by a Stratford woman, who deliberately drank a poisonous liniment.

FOREIGN TRADE OF CAPE COLONY.—The *Times* correspondent at Cape Town states that last year's imports into Cape Colony amounted to 17,000,000*l.*, of which 11,000,000*l.* represented imports from the United Kingdom. Exports amounted to 7,646,682*l.*, 6,854,175*l.* being to the United Kingdom. Imports from Germany amounted to 551,101*l.*, and from the United States 1,772,580*l.*

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Fire.

At Cookstown on April 6 a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. Samuel McKinney, chemist. Considerable damage was done, but the place is insured.

A Belfast Burglary.

On the evening of April 5 or morning of April 6 the drug-hall of Mr. Samuel Carson, Albert Bridge Road, Belfast, was broken into—7s. in coppers and 5s. worth of goods were stolen.

Personal.

Mr. J. C. O'Farrell, L.P.S.I., Donnybrook, has been appointed by the Local Government Board as acting-dispenser at Ringsend Dispensary.

A portrait of Sir James H. Haslett, President of the Ulster Branch of the Chemists and Druggists' Society, appears in the current issue of the *Belfast Health Journal*.

Drug-contracts.

Messrs. Boileau & Boyd (Limited), Dublin, have been appointed contractors to the Mountmellick Union for the supply of drugs and medicines to the several dispensaries at a discount of 25 per cent. off the official list of prices.

The Apothecaries' Hall and Messrs. Fannin & Co., Dublin, have been appointed contractors for the supply of medicines and surgical appliances respectively to the Newry Union at 21½ per cent. and 20 per cent. off the list-price.

The Guardians of the Ennistymon Union have accepted the tender of Messrs. Thacker & Hoffe, Dublin, for the supply of drugs and medicines at 17½ per cent. under the list-price. The Medical Requisite Company, Cork, have secured the contract for the supply of surgical appliances to the same Union at 13½ per cent. less than the nominal rate.

The Ardee Board of Guardians last week considered the following tenders for drugs and surgical appliances:—Medicines: Clarke & Co., 5 per cent.; McMaster, Hodgson & Co., Dublin, 10 per cent.; Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland, 17½ per cent.; and Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, 22½ per cent. The last-named tender was accepted. Surgical appliances: Medical Supply Association, 4 per cent.; Fannin & Co., Dublin, 4 per cent.; Smith & Shepperd, Dublin, 5 per cent.; John Clarke & Co., 12½ per cent. The last tender was accepted.

The Governors of the Queen's County Infirmary received on April 4 four tenders for the supply of medicines. Messrs. Hunt & Co., Dublin, proposed to supply at 16 per cent. off the Local Government Board's list, Messrs. J. B. Bolger 20 per cent., Apothecaries' Hall 21½ per cent., and Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, 25 per cent. Mr. Aird said as there was not much difference it would be more convenient to accept the local tender. The Chairman said the Apothecaries' Hall might be regarded as a fair average of what should be charged, and Mr. Bolger was only slightly dearer than the Hall. Mr. Bolger was appointed. Messrs. Fannin & Co., Dublin, were declared contractors for the supply of surgical appliances.

At the last meeting of the Newtownards Board of Guardians Mr. John Finlay said they had accepted the tender of Messrs. Clarke & Co., Belfast, for medicines at 12½ per cent. off list-prices. Was it a fact that in the previous year he had got a discount of 45 per cent., and that this year there was a tender of 30 per cent. under list-prices which was not accepted? The Clerk said a discount of 45 per cent was given three years ago, before the new list was sanctioned. The whole tender-form had since been revised. Now, the person who accepted the contract must satisfy the Local Government Board that he keeps a sufficient stock and is able to supply at a moment's notice any quantity of drugs wanted.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Business Changes.

Mr. Thomas Spence, chemist and druggist, has acquired the business of Messrs. H. Mitchell & Son at Fort William.

The old-established business of Messrs. J. M. Wilson & Co., chemists, Leven Street, Edinburgh, has been acquired by Mr. A. McOutcheon, chemist and druggist.

Mr. A. J. Clark, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business recently owned by Mr. Wm. Swan, pharmaceutical chemist, at 94 Morningside Road, Edinburgh.

Personal.

Miss Ethel M. Forrester, a pupil of Mr. Peter Boa, pharmaceutical chemist, Edinburgh, has gained the silver medal at the chemistry class in the Royal College of Surgeons Hall under Professor Ivison McAdam. There was only one mark between Miss Forrester and the gold medalist.

Doctors' Shops.

The decision of the Medical Council in the case continued from last meeting is being anxiously waited by the commercial medicos of the Glasgow district. Should the keeping of open shop with an unqualified assistant be considered "infamous conduct," many intend to give up the retail trade and use their premises as surgeries only. A few others express their intention of employing a qualified assistant.

Chemists' Licences.

At Edinburgh Licensing Court on April 9 grocers' licences were granted to Mr. George Duncan Mackay, pharmaceutical chemist, for John Mackay & Co., Canning Street; Mr. Robert Dick, chemist and druggist, for Duncan, Flockhart & Co., 104 and 106 South Bach, Canongate; Mr. William Inman, for Inman's Stores (Limited), for 1 South Clerk Street and 48 Shardwich Place (wines); James Arthur Gibson, chemist and druggist, for Gibson & Co., 19 South Clerk Street (wines); Mr. T. Connell Smith, chemist and druggist, for T. & H. Smith & Co., 19 Duke Street; and to Mr. John James Corstorphine for the Scottish Drug Depot (Limited), High Street (wines).

Professorial Emoluments.

In a parliamentary paper containing the annual statistical report by the University of Edinburgh to the Secretary for Scotland and the incomes of the various professors are detailed. The Faculty of Medicine appears to be by far the best paid, the gentleman with the highest total (2,012) being Sir William Turner, Professor of Anatomy. Next comes Dr. Cium Brown, Professor of Chemistry, who gets 1,828. Professor Bayley Balfour (Botany) has 1,515, and Professor T. R. Fraser (Materia Medica) 1,290. Neither Law, Science, nor Divinity appears to go beyond three figures, and the only four-figured professors in the Arts are W. R. Hardie (Humanity), S. H. Butcher (Greek), G. Chrystal (Mathematics) and P. G. Tait (Natural Philosophy).

Who is Liable?

Judgment has been given by Lord Stormonth Darling in the action raised by Wm. Brember, Strathaven, against S. Rutherford, joiner, Annan, details of which were given in our issue of March 16, page 432. His Lordship found that Brember was not, in point of fact, a partner of the business of "Brember & Co.," chemists, Annan. But Brember incurred liability to Rutherford by holding himself out as a partner, through a good-natured desire, his Lordship believed, to assist Flynn, the real owner, in retrieving his position. It may perhaps (his Lordship added) be a little hard on Brember to be thus made liable for what was truly a debt of Flynn's; but if a man allows his name to be used as a partner he must take the consequences, and an action ceases to be good-natured when it has the effect of deceiving.

the public. He therefore decided in favour of the respondent, and gave him expenses. The decision is to be appealed against.

The Borax Prosecutions at Paisley.

At a meeting of the Paisley Town Council the Health Committee reported that they had met Dr. Clark (Burg Analyst), who gave a lengthy explanation of his method of analysis and the cause of the error which led to the vendors being prosecuted. After discussion it was agreed to defer consideration of the matter for a month. It was also reported that a letter had been received from Drs. Duncan, Brownridge, and Stevenson, Messrs. Wain, Ribbons & Co. and Cockburn & Co. (Limited) drawing attention to the fact that this prosecution had put them to considerable expense in retaining counsel and expert witnesses, and otherwise arranging to defend the actions. They stated that they have had to pay 6*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* each in addition to the 5*l.* 5*s.* awarded by the Sheriff, and asked the Council to refund this sum as the prosecution was vexatious. They agreed to take no further action against the Corporation or its officials if the expenses were paid. The Town Council unanimously agreed to pay the sum asked for, while denying liability.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

THE PARIS MANSION of the late Dr. Thomas Evans, the famous dentist, is announced for sale by auction, the up-set price of the house and grounds being fixed at 2,800,000*f.* (112,000*l.*). The house attracted a good deal of attention last year, as it was rented by the French Government as a residence for the crowned heads who visited the Exhibition.

THE LATE M. CHATIN.—A worthy tribute to the memory of M. Chatin has been paid by M. Favier, President of the Federation of Pharmacists of the South-East of France, who was a student at Paris when M. Chatin was a professor and director of the school here. M. Favier seems to have been one of the young men who led the demonstrations hostile to M. Chatin, but now is willing to admit that the director was in the right, and pays a warm and eloquent tribute to his memory.

STRANGE DEATH OF A PHARMACY STUDENT.—A pharmacy student, named François Doussinet, 27 years of age, was suffering from a violent attack of toothache one evening last week. Before going to bed he made an injection of cocaine in the gum below the troublesome tooth and went to sleep. The next morning he was found dead in bed. The circumstances of the death appearing somewhat suspicious, the police commissary has had the body conveyed to the Morgue for a *post-mortem* examination.

OBITUARY.—The death is announced at Grenoble of M. Raoult, an eminent chemist and senior of the Faculty of Sciences of that town. He was a corresponding member of the Paris Academy of Sciences, a foreign member of the Chemical Society, London, and the Imperial Academy of St. Petersburg, and a Commander of the Legion of Honour. M. Raoult was 71 years of age, and held a high place amongst French chemists.—The death is announced of M. Maxime Cornu, a well-known French botanist, who has taken a leading part in the endeavours to eradicate phylloxera in France. The deceased was a professor at the Paris Museum of Natural History, and contributed largely to the literature of botany.

M. JULLIARD'S DEATH, announced last week, will recall to some English pharmacists the last two Congresses of Pharmacy. I remember during the Brussels Congress in 1898 one of the French delegates gently chided me with having spoken of M. Julliard as the Nestor of French pharmacy. The term may have appeared a trifle invidious to some other prominent Parisian pharmacists, and in any case it may be admitted that M. Julliard would have not chosen the expression himself. Those of us who were present at the banquet given in connection with the International Congress of Pharmacy held in Paris last autumn have a pleasant recollection of M. Julliard's humorous speech in verse in which he neatly took off the weak points of pharmacy. He was greatly appreciated as an after-dinner speaker, and frequently developed the poetical strain.

FOREIGN TRADE-MARKS.—The Austrian Administrative Law Court has recently given an important decision relative to the rights of foreigners, especially Frenchmen, in the registration of trade-marks in Austria. A Frenchman had requested the registration of a trade-mark already registered in France. His request was rejected, and the Minister of Commerce confirmed the refusal. This decision was appealed against, but the Court of Administrative Law maintained the verdict, holding that Frenchmen are not admitted to claim in Austria-Hungary trade-marks on the same terms as in France, but only according to the regulations which affect Austrians and Hungarians. Consequently, any French trade-mark must be submitted to examination according to Austrian law. Commenting on this, M. Jungfleisch says that as similar cases have been quoted by German papers it may be conjectured that Austria and Germany do not consider themselves bound in any way by international conventions regarding the form and validity of trade-marks. These countries have long refused to admit that a trade-mark is valid because it is registered in a foreign country with which there exists an international agreement. It seems, therefore, that the Austrian judgments and the practice of the German patent-law show that France is capable of exercising the same rights as the contracting countries. |

MINERAL-WATER STATISTICS.—For the fourth time the Minister of Public Works has drawn up a series of statistics giving the springs of mineral-water exploited in France and Algeria down to January 1, 1899. The three previous returns covered 1844, 1882, and 1892. The districts which now supply the greatest number of bottles are:—Vichy, 20 millions; Vals, 7 to 8 millions; Saint-Galmier, 12½ millions; Pougues, 2 millions; Contrexéville and Vittel, 1 million each, &c. France does not consume the whole of the mineral-waters she produces. In 1898 the exportation, not including a small quantity of waters which offer none of the characteristics of mineral-waters, or which have simply been imported and re-exported, rose to 13,759,000 litres, of which more than 9½ millions were sent from Vichy. The imports, omitting re-exports, comprised 3,485,000 litres of mineral-waters, both natural and artificial, amongst which may be quoted:—Hunyadi-János, 2,058,000; soda-water, 266,000; Soultzmat, 232,000; and Apollinaris, 209,000 litres. Algeria contains a tolerably large number of mineral springs remarkable for their high temperature, a fact which is noted in Mr. Claridge Druce's articles. They are principally used in the form of hot-water baths. Their total supply is not greatly inferior to that of France, and reaches 28,600 litres per minute. These baths are chiefly used by the natives. In 1898 the number of bathers who used them was 44,000, whilst the number of bottles used was 71,000. Of this quantity 21,000 bottles were forwarded to Tunis and 3,000 to France.

NOTES ON NAPOLEON.—It is announced that a Paris lawyer, M. Fremaux, has unearthed in London a diary of Dr. Stokoe, a naval surgeon who attended Napoleon Bonaparte for a time at St. Helena. Dr. Stokoe appears to have led the fashion that prevailed for a time amongst the physicians at St. Helena in declaring that the climate was dangerous, but ultimately he got into trouble with Sir Hudson Lowe, and was dismissed the service. I notice that Lord Rosebery, in his book "The Last Phase," has omitted reference to Dr. Stokoe altogether. Writing of Rosebery's book reminds me of an incident connected indirectly with pharmacy, related on page 24, to which a pharmacien recently drew my attention. It was in March 1821, and Napoleon, having complained of feeling internal pains, a young Corsican physician, named Antommarchi, gave his illustrious patient ¼ gr. of tartar emetic in lemonade, with the result that Napoleon was violently sick. He declined any further medicine of the kind, but next day asked for a glass of lemonade. When the servant brought it the Emperor gave it to his companion, Montholon, to drink, with the result that the latter was very sick. This naturally annoyed Napoleon, who called the doctor an assassin. My friend the pharmacien suggests that when the subject of Napoleon is getting threadbare someone should write the history of his influence on pharmacy. Many people are of opinion that no crowned head ever took a keener interest in our profession, and it is well known that he looked upon Laubert, the chief pharmacien of the Grande Armée as little less than a sorcerer.

South African News.

(From our Colonial Correspondents.)

SOME OF THE CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS in Bloemfontein are obliged to refuse the acceptance of doctors' prescriptions. Their stocks are running so low that several drugs not in frequent demand are unobtainable.

PERSONAL.—Mr. W. Kelk Mager has been elected Mayor of Queen's Town. Mr. Mager was recently returned to the Town Council unopposed, and is a Progressive member. He is a member of the Pharmacy Board of Cape Colony.—Mr. J. H. Dinwoodie (Johannesburg) has been appointed temporary inspector of dispensaries, with headquarters at Pretoria.

CONVALESCENT COMPOUNDERS.—Civil Dispenser Adams, who was shot through the forearm in the attack on the mail-train, February 6, near Greylingstadt, has sufficiently recovered to resume duty at Heidelberg. For the past four weeks his wound has been treated in the military hospital at the Wanderers' Grounds, Johannesburg, where it was x-rayed. Civil Dispenser Martlew has quite recovered. He was shot through the scalp, at the back of the head, the bullet grazing the skull. He is now on duty at Potchefstroom.

INDUSTRIES OF NATAL.—According to the report of the Durban Chamber of Commerce, the quantity of spirits manufactured in Natal during 1900 was 159,700 gals., as against 64,000 gals. in 1899. The quantities methylated were respectively 13,000 gals. and 7,300 gals. The export, which had been nominal for many years, rose to 23,000 gals. The consumption in the colony, according to the returns of the Controller of Excise, was 106,000 gals., against 28,000 for 1899. The output of Natal tea is increasing steadily, but the great length of time (from three to five years) before a return is obtained from planting renders the increase less than it otherwise would be. The opening of the Cape market gave an impetus to planting, but the result or return is not yet available. Probably the increased area under tea during the past two years has been from four to five hundred acres. The yield of tea for the colony will probably reach close upon 1,500,000 lbs. weight, which will be 250,000 lbs. more than last season.

A PLAGUE-PREVENTIVE PILL.—Our Cape correspondent states that there has been quite a run on the following pill, by which the plague was kept under control in the Baroda State in India:—

2 gr. quinine
 $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. ipecacuanha
 $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. camphor
 $\frac{1}{4}$ minim carbolic acid

The chief medical officer of Baroda, in his evidence before the Plague Commission, quoted statistics which showed that, by freely using the pills, the number of plague-cases that occurred in the city of Baroda was less, and the rate of mortality from all causes was also less, than in the previous year, when the pills had not been used freely; and he further stated that of 171 persons employed in plague-hospitals in that territory only four were attacked, of whom one died, and the latter had never taken the pills. He contrasted this with the number of cases and rate of mortality in hospitals in other parts of India, and inferred that the use of the pills affords protection against plague to a great extent.

American Notes.

RAIDING THE DRUG-STORES.—Twenty-six indictments were returned recently by the Grand Jury of Pittsburgh against nineteen drug-firms charging them with adulterating and selling adulterated drugs. A number of the biggest firms are being involved, the prosecution being instituted by representatives of the State Pharmaceutical Board. Some of the defendants are wholesalers, some retailers.

REPEALED.—The stamp-tax on proprietary medicines, perfumery and cosmetics amongst other things, which was imposed at the beginning of the Spanish-American War, has been repealed. The U.S. Congress has passed the War

Revenue Reduction Bill, which provides for retaining a number of features of the old law, the modification of some, and the total repeal of those mentioned. There is much rejoicing in pharmacy circles. The relief will come in force on July 1.

FOR THE MAYORALTY.—Two prominent Buffalo druggists—Mr. Robert K. Smither, President of the State Board of Pharmacy, and Mr. Thomas Stoddart, President-elect of the New York State Pharmaceutical Association—are mentioned for nomination on the Republican ticket for Mayor of the city. Mr. Smither, who has been in the retail drug-business in the city for a considerable number of years, has already been a member of the Board of Aldermen. Mr. Stoddart, senior member of the firm of Stoddart Brothers, has been in the drug-business for a quarter of a century. He is President of the St. Andrews Scottish Society, and a man of great personal popularity.

BUSINESS EXPANSION.—The importing department of Messrs Parke, Davis & Co. in New York has grown to such proportions that a new six-storey and basement building at No. 307 Pearl Street has been leased by them as a warehouse for the storage of surplus stock of crude drugs, gums, &c. The offices of the importing department, however, will remain at Nos. 90, 92 and 94 Maiden Lane. Mr. W. B. Kaufman, manager of the importing department, says the new building will enable the company to facilitate the handling of shipments, and aid in coping with the increasing volume of business. The new premises will be modernly equipped with electric lights, platform-elevator, and all other conveniences.—The Stallman & Fulton Company, New York, will on May 1 abandon the building at No. 10 Gold Street heretofore occupied by them, the increase and extension of their business necessitating larger quarters and superior facilities. For offices this company have leased the ground-floor, on the Platt Street side of the new Mallinckrodt Building and the entire basement underneath, where an assorted stock of various drugs will be kept. The Mallinckrodt Building is the latest addition to the number of tall downtown buildings, and is situated in the heart of the drug-trade. For the storage of the greater part of the stock of crude drugs the company have leased the six-storey and basement building at No. 10 Jacob Street, where also the general shipping-department will be located. It is a very strong, new building, with large, roomy floors, and is equipped with electric elevator and electric lighting throughout. Another modern five-storey and basement building has also been leased by the company at No. 12 Peck Slip, for the milling and manufacturing department.

East Indian News.

MR. ALFRED PELL, M.P.S., general manager of Kemp & Co. (Limited), Bombay, has just been appointed by H.E. the Governor in Council a Justice of the Peace for Bombay. He is, we understand, the first chemist to whom the honour has been given for very many years.

MR. FRANK BLISS, chemist and druggist, Simla, has purchased the Punjab Medical Hall, Lahore. The business will be carried on in future under the same name and style as the Simla business, viz., Frank Bliss & Co. It was started about 1880 by the now defunct firm of E. Gillon & Co.

A TRADE-MARK CASE.—At the Calcutta Court, Messrs Osborne, Garrett & Co., of Frith Street, Soho, London recently charged Fazl Elahie and Shams-ul-Huq, of Rutton Sircar's Lane, with selling and having in possession razors with the trade-mark and trade-description of "Kropp," of which the London firm were the owners. Some evidence was taken and the case was adjourned.

TRAVANCORE TRADE.—The report on the administration of the State of Travancore (August 16, 1899, to August 15, 1900) states that trade generally showed a decline, both in exports and imports, chiefly in the latter. In the Cardamom Hills district the extension of cardamom-cultivation was encouraged. A fresh consignment of camphor-seed was obtained from Japan, and 10,000 seeds of Para rubber. An area of seven acres on Vemboor am island was planted with Para rubber at a cost of 30-1r. per acre.

Colonial and Foreign News.

MESSRS. LYMAN, KNOX & Co., wholesale druggists, Montreal and Toronto, have formed their business into a limited-liability company under the title of "Lyman, Knox & Co. (Limited)."

ESSENTIAL-OIL MERCHANTS IN PARLIAMENT.—Three representatives from Kezanlik and surrounding districts have been elected to the Bulgarian Parliament for five years. The election was a very spirited one, and is of interest to the essential-oil trade, as the three victorious candidates were Ivan P. Sallabacheff, Dontchi B. Pappazoglou, and Konstantin Seraphimow.

GERMAN FOREIGN TRADE.—A circular is being issued by the German Foreign Office to German consular officers in all parts of the world, directing them in future to render greater assistance to commercial travellers by introducing them, where possible, to likely customers in their consular districts. In many cases, principally those of Consul-Generals, larger allowances are also to be made by the authorities in Berlin, in order that better information may be collected and more assistance rendered in the way described.

EUCALYPTUS IN LONDON.—Mr. Colenso Blogg, of Blogg Brothers, Melbourne, who has returned from his European trip, reports that in spite of the competition of Algerian and other eucalyptus oils the demand for Australian oil is increasing, and the price is rising, but it was evident to him that only oil of a high eucalyptol content could be sold. The result probably will be that inferior oils will be kept in Australia, and the best oils will be sent away, so that as in many other places the country of produce will be worse served than the distant market.

QUICKSILVER IN THE ANTIPODES.—The comparative scarcity and high price of quicksilver have stimulated prospecting for the ores of that metal. This has been the case especially in Australia, where cinnabar has been found in different places, though it has never been worked to any extent. In New South Wales, however, systematic development has been undertaken upon a deposit near Yulgilbar, in the Clarence River District, which was lately examined by the Government geologists, who reported the existence of lodes which appear promising. Nearly 1,000 tons of ore has been taken out, and a working test is to be made. In New Zealand, also, work is to be undertaken on the Ohacawai deposit, on which a favourable report was lately made by experts.

GERMAN PERFUMERY INDUSTRY.—The German perfumery industry is growing steadily, and gains customers who formerly dealt exclusively in French and English perfumery, says the American Consul-General at Frankfurt. While for 1891 the exports of soaps and perfumeries amounted to but 9,400,000m., they had grown to about 17,000,000m. in 1899. In 1900 the exports of soaps show a considerable decrease, while those of perfumeries show a gain. The value of perfumery exported in 1900 was 11,000,000m. against 10,300,000m. in 1899 and 8,600,000m. in 1898. The large increase in the exports of perfumeries dates from 1895. The decrease in exports of toilet-soaps is said to be on account of low prices caused by lively competition. Besides, there still exists a popular prejudice in favour of French and English toilet-soaps.

NEW IDEAS.—A handsome new pharmacy has been erected by Mr. W. C. Fitzgerald, chemist, at the corner of Willis Street and Lambton Quay, in Wellington, N.Z. The entire fittings were supplied by Messrs. Maw, Son, & Sons, of Aldersgate Street, E.C., and the novel features include a visitors' book, a ladies' counter presided over by a qualified lady-chemist, a surgery constructed on the latest aseptic principles, where patients who are unable or unwilling to be operated on in hospital, can be attended to by their own doctor; and fitting-rooms and waiting-rooms for ladies.—Messrs. Williamson & Co., chemists, Wanganui, N.Z., have added a ladies' department to their pharmacy. This department is under the control of a qualified lady-pharmacist, who will also advise fair clients as to the care of the hair and the complexion.

COMMERCIAL PHARMACY.—In the University of Michigan, a course of special lectures in the several branches of pharmacy—dispensing, business, manufacturing, jobbing, and importing—are going on. These lectures are being delivered by representative men connected with wholesale drug-firms, and medical and pharmaceutical colleges throughout the country. The following are some of the subjects:—"Avoidable Losses in the Drug-business"; "The N.A.R.D."; "Channels of Pharmaceutical Commerce"; "Emergency-cases in the Drug-store, and How to Treat Them"; "Raw Material in the Perfume-industry"; "The Cod-liver-oil Industry"; "Advertising Retail Businesses"; "Business Principles in Pharmacy"; "The Business Phase of the Druggists Relation to the Medical Profession"; "Some Practical Problems in the Drug-business"; "The Relation of the Pharmacist to the Law of the State"; "Tea-culture"; and "National Associations in Pharmacy."

DUTY ON ALCOHOL IN JAPAN.—In order to avoid the 250-per-cent. *ad-valorem* duty on alcohol fixed by the Japanese Customs tariff various manoeuvres have been resorted to on the part of several importers. Thus, for instance, alcohol has been imported under the guise of patent medicines, from which, by means of distillation, the original article has been reproduced. Another means of evasion was found by the American Trading Company of Yokohama, who imported alcohol, as used in the Japanese manufacture of lacquer, under the denomination of "white-rye whisky," at the lower rate of duty of 40 per cent. *ad val.* Subsequent to the passing of 400 casks under this declaration without any objections being raised, the rate of 250 per cent. Customs duty was applied last May to a shipment of 750 casks, and the remonstrances against this remained unheeded, and were finally refused. A sum of upwards of half a million of yen is involved in the dispute, as 9,000 casks of the pretended whisky are still warehoused in bond in the Japanese depôts.

NEW TARIFF OF SALVADOR.—In a new tariff which has been issued by this South American province quicksilver and quinine have been removed from the free list, while carbide of calcium, sulphide of carbon, surgical instruments, vaccine fluids, and serums have been added to the free list. The following drugs and medicines are to pay a duty of 17. 10s. per 100 lbs. :—

Bromides of potassium, sodium, ammonium, lithium, &c.; phosphates of lime; soda and potassium, not denominated cream of tartar; tartaric, oxalic, and phenic acids; soft extracts, dry or liquid; camphor, balsam of copaiba, manna of all kinds; gum arabic; plasters and adhesive cloths; chloroform; sulphuric ether; pastilles, drops, pills, granules; iodides of potassium, sodium, ammonium, lead, &c.; suspensories, trusses, and any other kinds of bandages, syringes of all kinds; wafers, insect-paper, medicinal cotton of all kinds; medicated wood-fibre, nursing-bottles, breast-pumps, cupping-glasses, analytical tubes, retorts; incense, myrrh, and other aromatic gums for burning; medicinal soaps and syrups; salts, as strychnine, aconite, atropine, eserine (extract of Calabar bean), digitalis, veratrine, morphine, quassia, cocaine, and other alkaloids; salts of gold, silver, and platinum; sulphate of quinine, and all medicines not specified in the present tariff; medicinal essences, as peppermint, cinnamon, neroli, melissa, bergamot, and others not specified.

The following are to pay 7s. 6d. per 100 lbs. :—

Sulphate of copper; sulphate of zinc; salammoniac; medicinal oils, as almond, castor, palma christi, cod-liver, pure or in emulsion, henbane, belladonna; soothing syrup; liquid ammonia; oil of turpentine; unscented vaseline; dextrin; leaves, flowers, buds, unclassified seeds, barks, roots, and scrapings; chloride of calcium; flowers of sulphur; milk of sulphur; carbonate and bicarbonate of soda and potassium; medicinal flours, as sago, tapioca, lactated, or other similar kinds not specified; medicinal wines, as quinine, peptone, pepsin, lacto-phosphate of lime, and others not classified; tar beverages, as "Goudron de Guyot," and others not specified.

A duty of 92c. per 100 lbs. has been imposed on Epsom salts, chalk or carbonate of lime, sulphate of iron, alum, sulphate of soda, hydrochloric acid, sulphuric, nitric, and acetic acid, sulphurous acid, caustic soda and potash for industrial uses, and lump sulphur.

The exports of chemicals, drugs, dyes, and medicines from the United States during 1900 were valued at \$13,786,000, against \$11,950,000 in 1899, and \$9,733,000 in 1898.

Council Candidates.

THE contest for seven seats in the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain which become vacant next month is, at present, somewhat nebulous in character, owing to the fact that there is no organisation to secure the return of any person or group of persons. True, the North East Lancashire Chemists' Association has nominated Mr. R. L. Gifford, and the Chemists' Assistants' Union again puts forward Mr. C. E. Pickering, but neither of these bodies can be regarded as the fully representative caucus which is necessary to "run a ticket" before the electors. Scotland has one of her two chairs at the Council-table vacant, and we understand that committees have been formed in Aberdeen and Edinburgh to further the interests of Mr. Paterson and Mr. Stephenson, but this will not save splitting the vote. At present we are not prepared to advise, but take the first step in this direction in our usual manner.

POSTCARD COMPETITION.

For the seven vacancies on the Pharmaceutical Council there are seventeen candidates, whose names and towns of residence are as follows:—

Charles Bowen Allen, London
Samuel R. Atkins, Salisbury
A. S. Campkin, Cambridge
Octavius Corder, Norwich
Richard L. Gifford, Blackburn
Geo. Jas. Gostling, Stowmarket
Harry Kemp, Manchester
James Mackenzie, Edinburgh
David McLaren, Edinburgh

William Martindale, London
John Wm. T. Morrison, Tring
G. T. W. Newsholme, Sheffield
James Paterson, Aberdeen
Samuel N. Pickard, Ossett
C. E. Pickering, London
Arthur Ledsam Savory, London
John B. Stephenson, Edinburgh

We do not think it is possible for anyone to place these in the order in which they will occur in the poll on May 23, but it should not be difficult to state which seven will be elected. What we ask our subscribers and their employes or members of their families to do is to write on a postcard the names of the seven who they think will be elected, and place the names in the order in which they will be returned at the poll. Each competitor must append his own name and address. We shall award 1*l.* 1*s.* to the card that approximates most closely to the general vote. The competition will close on May 4. In the event of a tie, or otherwise, between two or more competitors we reserve the right to divide the money, or add to it as the case may require.

The vote which we shall obtain through this competition will assist those who have difficulty in making up their minds, but it is also necessary to know

THE OPINIONS OF CANDIDATES.

We have addressed each, asking those who are not on the Council their reasons for seeking election. That way of putting it is not strictly applicable to the retiring Councillors, so we asked each of them to give reasons in support of the election of a colleague. Mr. S. R. Atkins, Treasurer of the Society and a past Vice-President, writes so charmingly in reply that we cannot do better than allow his letter to speak

On Behalf of Retiring Councillors.

The Mount, Elm Grove, Salisbury, April 6, 1901.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your note, and in reply to your question why the electors should return the retiring Councillors to office I venture to say because they are tried men, and, I humbly hope and believe, have not been found wanting.

That we are all equally strong and capable I have not (as one of the number) the presumption or vanity to claim, but if we surrender time, thought, and energy to the service of the body politic, that is a consideration which may surely influence our constituents.

You cannot, if you would, stereotype such a body as the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society; constant changes are inevitable. The infusion of new life means new energy and fresh ideas. These I heartily welcome, but surely, Sir, you will admit with me that the experience which time and age alone can furnish is not an unimportant element in the constitution of an instrument such as the Council of our Society, to which the State has delegated important and often most delicate duties as an executive authority.

I am, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

S. R. ATKINS.

We now give extracts from the letters which we have received from the new candidates, and others will be given in subsequent issues.

Mr. Harry Kemp, of Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

I would like to disclaim having "sought" election. I have been "persuaded" to place my services to the craft before my own personal interests, and I take it that in asking me to assent to nomination it is thought that I shall better represent the interests of the general body of retail pharmacists than some who now occupy seats on the Council. On no other grounds can I explain my position as a candidate.

Having figured more or less prominently in pharmaceutical politics for a great many years, it is well known that I have been a staunch advocate of the rights and privileges of the qualified chemist and druggist; my motto has always been "Pharmacy for the qualified pharmacist."

In the capacity of local secretary for Manchester and district, which was, prior to the new divisional arrangements, the largest district supervised by any honorary officer of the Pharmaceutical Society, I came into personal contact with a very large number of pharmacists of all grades, and the knowledge thereby gained, added to my own thirty-three years' practical acquaintance with retail pharmacy in its various and ever-varying phases, leads me to think that I not only know but can also appreciate the difficulties with which nearly all have to contend. If I can be of the least service in helping toward the realisation of the higher ideals of our calling, or in removing obstacles to legitimate progress, I shall feel repaid for any personal sacrifices I am called upon to make on this account. I make no specious promises regarding my policy or line of action if elected; my record in the past may be taken as an earnest of the future. I am the nominee of no party, and in the event of my being elected I shall act according to the dictates of common sense and justice without fear and seeking no favour.

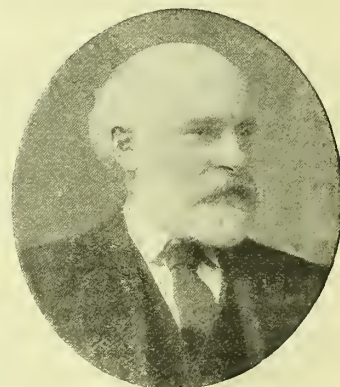


MR. H. KEMP.

Mr. James Mackenzie, of Edinburgh.

After many years of careful study of the management of our Society, I see much that is still wanted but has been left undone: the interests of the few have been made to set aside those of the many, while the condition of things at "head-quarters" is highly unsatisfactory, and demands careful investigation. I would resolutely desire to secure a carefully prepared opinion of the highest legal authority that can be obtained of our laws and constitution, charter, Acts of Parliament, and by-laws, so that we may really know our position and what we have got, rather than to go blundering on to find the decisions in the Law Courts are very different from what has long been entertained at "the Square."

I will support a policy, in regard to the examinations, suited to the requirements of the present time, and on no account make these more severe, while I would give credit to the candidates for the subjects in which a certain standard of marks has been attained. I would firmly support all laudable efforts to secure the well-being and unity of the members, and any reasonable proposal in order to increase our membership. The time has also arrived when the Council should consider the possibility of offering the *Pharmaceutical Journal* for sale, and let it be conducted by private enter-



MR. J. MACKENZIE.

prise. I would earnestly support any suitable proposal that was likely to secure that measure of protection, which would be adequate to the heavy responsibilities resting upon us. In this I may quote the words of the great pioneer of pharmacy—Mr. Jacob Bell—in a paper he read on "The Constitution of the Pharmaceutical Society," on May 11, 1841, which applies to our position after these sixty years, as the unattained yet greatly needed:—

"The labours of the pharmacist, in order to attain their full amount of success, must be well directed. They must not be thrown away upon hypothetical experiments or visionary inventions, but directed to such objects, and carried on with that method, which may be expected to result in positive practical utility."

Every elector who has hitherto taken little interest in the Council election must greatly increase his interest, and those who have long had a grievance will require to rouse themselves to action. Let each of these select the reformers they are satisfied with—even to a small extent, it may be—and by all that is in their power have the voting-papers properly filled up and posted in good time. The success of this election lies in every single elector doing his duty.

Mr. James Paterson, of Aberdeen.

I have always endeavoured to do my best for the interests of pharmacy in the locality in which I reside, and I am quite willing to do in a wider sphere what I have done at home if called thereto. I am thoroughly convinced that the great mass of the chemists in the country will never understand their position in relation to pharmaceutical legislation until we have it simplified

and codified into one comprehensive Bill. As to company-pharmacy, I do not think the Council have tackled it so holdly as they might fairly have done. They have permitted the interests of companies to grow, and in any legislation on the matter I would not perpetuate the privilege, and as to those engaged in the business would make the liberty non-transmissible in the case of the business ceasing to be carried on, for any reason, so that the right would not form part of the goodwill of any company, and let no more be formed, but revert to the original



MR. J. PATERSON.

intention of the 1868 Act and confine the right to set up in business to those qualified by examination. The question of pharmaceutical education is a wide and important one, especially the curriculum. We have been told by those members of Council sent out to expound the new Bill that this need not be considered a practical question for the present; but at the last meeting of Council the Vice-President expressed the hope that the question would be shortly taken up for settlement, so that it would seem to be appearing on the horizon of practical politics. I am in favour of a curriculum, and I agree with the Vice-President in saying it should be gone through during apprenticeship as a supplement, however, to the training in the shop, and not be worked as an equivalent for apprenticeship. Before a curriculum can be established on these lines, however, provision must be made for its being put within the reach of the apprentices. I think the Society has been exceedingly remiss in this respect, and I feel that I can speak my mind more freely in that we have managed to secure a thoroughly equipped pharmacy school in our technical college here. It might have devoted more of its own funds to encourage the establishment of such schools. They have never approached Government for aid such as is given to medical schools. They have never applied for recognition of classes specially suitable for pharmaceutical education from the Science and Art Department.

Chemists are not the only people Government compel to pass examinations in order to secure the safety of the public. The officers in the Mercantile Marine have to pass such examinations; Government pays for their examiners, and provides accommodation in each port of any size. Why are we the only people who receive no help? Our claim is as good as either medicals, sailors, or engineers; but we have never put a claim forward. Government is now taking the distribution of the grant for technical education out of the hands of town and county councils, and is to superintend the distribution of the sum themselves. Now is the time for the Council to go into a comprehensive scheme of

provincial education, and obtain assistance from the Government, when they are considering the distribution of the money for technical education.

Mr. C. E. Pickering, of Hornsey, N.,

is issuing a printed address to the electors; an Aberdeen committee is doing the same for Mr. Paterson. We find nothing in Mr. Pickering's address to indicate that he is the Chemists' Assistants' candidate. He says:—

Unjust trading is a serious matter that should be remedied by the Pharmaceutical Society. In the Charter of Incorporation, one of the duties of the Society is stated to be "to protect the business of the chemist and druggist." For years past it has constantly been pointed out by me that the Society has neglected to do so. Now we have the extraordinary spectacle of this very organisation, by its draft Pharmacy Bill, seeking to legalise this identical grievance. The marked apathy shown to the Bill indicates pretty conclusively how small an opinion the trade has for this latest effort of the Society. It is far from what most chemists were expecting, and it certainly is not the way the great majority of the trade considers its interests should be protected. What right has any unqualified company to a qualification and legal status, except by its proprietors passing the proper examinations? Gentlemen, the remedy is in your hands. If you wish it effected give me (and any other candidate who pledges himself to carry it out) your votes.

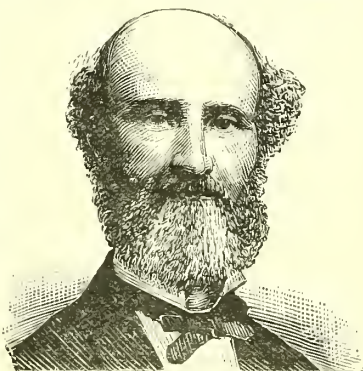


MR. C. E. PICKERING.

Mr. John B. Stephenson, of Edinburgh

I may state, generally, that I am standing as a Scottish representative. Mr. Johnston, of Aberdeen, having intimated his retirement, I have been persuaded by a good many friends to

offer myself in his room and as colleague to my excellent and highly respected friend Mr. Storrar. I consider that the position of Scotland in respect to matters pharmaceutical is sufficiently distinctive to render the claim that she should return two out of the twenty-one members of Council a reasonable one. This, of course (in the absence of territorial representation), cannot be effected without the aid of English votes, but these have always been willingly con-



MR. J. B. STEPHENSON.

ceded, so that for many years Scotland has been represented on the Council to the above-mentioned moderate extent. It is on this ground that I venture to solicit the support of members in the South. I have been actively engaged in the practical details of a pharmacist's business all my life, and have been a member of the Society for forty-three years. I was for many years a member of the Scottish Board of Examiners and of the Executive, so that I am intimately acquainted with the working of these bodies and with their relations to the Council. I am of opinion that it is of the greatest importance to the Society that these relations should be of the most intimate and cordial character, and, if elected, it would be my constant aim and endeavour to secure that desirable end. I highly approve of the recent action of the Council in increasing the facilities of entrance to the membership of the Society. I also approve, generally, of the proposed Pharmacy Bill now before us, and would support the Council in promoting it. I may add that, having retired from active business, my time is now at my own disposal, and I would willingly devote as much of it as might be required to the duties of a member of Council, and, generally, that I would give my best attention and exercise my best judgment in forwarding any action of the Council in the way of promoting the interests of pharmacy and of the Pharmaceutical Society.

Some Recent Books.

THAT the reading public has never been averse to disagree with science is fairly evident from the number of books, some classic, which have come down to us from the latter half of the nineteenth century. Dr. Lardner's series was a great success in its day, and the "Letters on Natural Magic," which Sir David Brewster addressed to Sir Walter Scott, were so well appreciated by the public that Wm. Tegg & Co. had to publish many editions of the entertaining yet erudite book. That was half a century since, and in the interval the appetite for the mysterious and the scientific has been growing, as the International Science series amply proves. In these latter days we have in the Temple Cyclopædic primers a good example of the modern tendency, which is for more *fact* and less *wonder* than our forefathers liked. Professor Ramsay's two volumes on "Modern Chemistry" * are, however, a little more, we fancy, than the man in the street wants, but they are exactly what, for example, the chemist and druggist who has long done with text-books and examinations would desire to refresh his memory and bring him up to date. The first of the volumes deals with theory and the second with system. The former is the more interesting, because it is largely historical, therefore gives scope for good reading, which Professor Ramsay's fluent pen affords. Especially noteworthy in both is the attention given to the electrolytic phenomena which led up to the ionisation theory of solution. In this connection we may note that No. 15 of the Alembic Club Reprints † comprises Hermann Kolbe's papers on "The Electrolysis of Organic Compounds." The work was done when Kolbe was assistant to Dr. Lyon Playfair, and the papers were communicated to the Chemical Society in the forties, although the last and shortest was read in 1868. They include his experiments on valericianic and acetic acids. One of the first to give the ionisation theory due consideration in the operations of qualitative analysis is Dr. Mollwo Perkin, head of the chemistry-department in the Borough Polytechnic Institute. His "Analysis," ‡ incorporates organic and inorganic analysis, and the first twenty pages of it are a lucid exposition of the theory of wet and dry reactions, including "film," "match," and other tests which the latter-day student is expected to be adept in. The tests for inorganic bases and acids are described in the conventional manner, the usual tables being included (174 pages), and the organic compounds include alcohols, sugars, glucosides, alkaloids, and other substances with which medical and pharmaceutical students are expected to be familiar in the examination-room. The book is as cheap as it is trustworthy. We may also commend to students of pharmacy Mr. Thomas S. Barrie's "Volumetric Analysis," § which takes them over the work required for the Minor, and gives besides many excellent hints in regard to Minor physics.

Amongst medical books there are few which have the popularity of Dr. Murrell's little one on poisoning, || which is still small enough to go into the vest-pocket, although it gets fatter every edition. The information is thoroughly practical, much of it is exclusive to the book, and it is all put in attractive English. Those who want to know the higher side of homœopathic treatment will find Dr. J. H. Clarke's "Prescriber" ¶ excellent, especially as it shows the reason and rhyme of the new therapeutics. We would also commend Mr. Banham's "Veterinary Posology," ** which we have used with satisfaction as a desk-book for some years.

* "Modern Chemistry." By Wm. Ramsay, D.Sc. I. Theoretical. II. Systematic. J. M. Dent & Co. 1s. each.

† "Alembic Club Reprints, No. 15." Clay (Edinburgh); Simpkin Marshall & Co. (London). 1s. 6d.

‡ "Qualitative Chemical Analysis." By F. Mollwo Perkin, Ph.D. Longmans, Green & Co. 3s. 6d.

§ "Volumetric Analysis, with a chapter on Specific Gravities." By T. S. Barrie, West of Scotland College of Pharmacy. 2s.

|| "What to do in Cases of Poisoning." By Wm. Murrell, M.D. 9th edition. H. K. Lewis. 3s. 6d.

¶ "The Prescriber: a Dictionary of the New Therapeutics." By J. H. Clarke, M.D. Homœopathic Publishing Company. 4s.

** "Table of Veterinary Posology and Therapeutics." By George A. Banham, F.R.C.V.S. Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 2s. 6d.

Notes on Essential Oils.

By ERNEST J. PARRY, B.Sc., F.I.C.

OIL OF EUCALYPTUS MELLIODORA.

IN THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of August 11, 1900, Messrs. Baker and Smith give some figures for an oil of eucalyptus, which they state is the product of *E. melliodora*. They say that the crude oil has a sp. gr. of 0.905, and the rectified oil of 0.902, the latter containing 58 per cent. of eucalyptol. So high a percentage of eucalyptol with so low a sp. gr. has, as far as I know, never been noted by any other observer. I have, through the courtesy of Mr. A. E. Collins, received a sample of eucalyptus oil distilled at his own works, and which, he assures me, was distilled from the leaves of *E. melliodora*, and I find it to have entirely different characters to those ascribed to the oil by Baker and Smith. It had a sp. gr. of 0.917, optical rotation, $-0^{\circ} 37'$, and contained 52 per cent. of eucalyptol. Baker and Smith agree that the sp. gr. of this oil rises as winter sets in, but claim that the percentage of eucalyptol is practically independent of the sp. gr. No explanation, however, is offered of the somewhat dogmatic statement that "the sp. gr. of a good eucalyptus oil is not governed by the amount of eucalyptol present."

OIL OF BITTER ALMONDS.

During the last few months a large number of samples of oil of bitter almonds have passed through my hands which have been offered on the market at full prices as genuine oil. Quite a number of these were adulterated to a very large extent with a very highly rectified nitrobenzene (with more or less nitrotoluene). This sophistication is, of course, easy of detection, but it is worth drawing attention to on account of the enormous difference in the price of the two products. The adulterated oils had sp. grs. varying from 1.143 to 1.187, and yielded a large fraction on distillation, at from 195° to 215° C. In addition to this form of adulteration several samples were evidently mixed with synthetic benzaldehyde. This is, in most cases, revealed by the presence of small quantities of chlorine, which are retained by the artificial aldehyde during the process of manufacture.

Marriages.

BRIMSON—THAYER.—On March 28, at St. Paul's, Addlestone, by the Rev. Charles Sharp, M.A., George Frederick Brimson, chemist and druggist, Addlestone, to Nurse Ada Thayer, late of Kingston-on-Thames.

CAIRNS—MAIR.—At Glasgow, on April 8, by the Rev. James Forfar, Martyrs' Parish, John Cairns, chemist and druggist, to Annie Elspeth, eldest daughter of Mr. John Mair.

CRAIG—LAUDER.—At Edinburgh, on April 8, by the Rev. J. McKenzie Gibson, John Ross Craig, chemist, to Christina Sinclair, youngest daughter of Mr. Hugh Lauder, Edinburgh.

GRANT—BAIRD.—At Queen's Park, Glasgow, on April 4, by the Rev. George Williams, M.A., Candlish Memorial U.F. Church, George Brown Grant, chemist and druggist, Troon, to Janet Clelland, second daughter of the late Mr. Alexander Baird.

Deaths.

BRUCE.—At St. Andrews, Scotland, on April 8, Mr. Alexander Keiller Bruce, chemist and druggist. Aged 58. The deceased gentleman was a native of Dundee, but left when quite young for St. Andrews, where his uncle, Mr. Alexander Govan, was in business as one of the founders of Messrs. Smith & Govan, pharmaceutical chemists. In due course Mr. Bruce was apprenticed to his uncle, and after his apprenticeship he proceeded to Edinburgh, where he became an assistant with Messrs. James Robertson & Co., George

Street. Subsequently he went to Cambridge. This was in the early sixties, and when there was a rush from this country to the gold-fields of Australia Mr. Bruce caught the fever and went out there; but he stuck to pharmacy, and in due course settled down in Queensland, where he carried on business successfully. Returning to this country some twenty years ago he was taken into partnership in his uncle's firm in St. Andrews. Mr. Bruce while favoured with good health was a most energetic man, and took a considerable part in the public life of St. Andrews, and ultimately became senior Bailie. He had had poor health during the past eighteen months, and last year resigned all his public appointments and retired from business, Mr. William Anderson having taken over the management. Mr. Bruce is survived by a widow and one son.

COMPTON-BURNETT.—On April 1, suddenly, James Compton-Burnett, M.D., of 20 The Drive, Brighton, and 83 Wimpole Street, W. Aged 60. Dr. Compton-Burnett was a leading homœopathic physician. He was an M.D. of Glasgow University, and also of Vienna, where he spent several years, both as a student and as assistant to Professor Skoda. He began practice in Birkenhead, and removed later on to Chester, whence he came to London. He was for several years editor of the *Homœopathic World*, a post which he relinquished in 1885, owing to the demands made upon his time by his increasing practice. Dr. Compton-Burnett was a ripe scholar, and a very prolific writer on medical subjects.

HOLLIDAY.—On April 2, at Bexhill-on-Sea, Mr. Robert Holliday, of Read Holliday & Sons (Limited), manufacturing chemists, Huddersfield. Aged 45. Mr. Robert Holliday was the last survivor of four sons of the late Mr. Read Holliday, who founded the business.

KENT.—At Arlesey, Hitchin, Mr. T. W. Kent, chemist and druggist. Mr. Kent had carried on business in the town for many years, and was well known for his kindness to the poor.

RUSSELL.—On April 4, at Grosvenor Terrace, Camberwell, S.E., Mr. Charles Roberts Russell, chemist and druggist. Aged 84. Mr. Russell was for forty-nine years at East Street, Walworth.

SHARP.—At Barnsbury, N., on March 29, Mr. Robert Henry Sharp, chemist and druggist. Aged 49.

SMITH.—On March 27, Mr. William Frederick Smith, pharmaceutical chemist, at the house of his son, Dr. Sydney Lloyd Smith, 25 Argyle Square, London. Aged 84. Mr. W. F.

Smith joined the Pharmaceutical Society in 1842, while an assistant to Messrs. Southall, Birmingham. He was afterwards an assistant with Mr. Charles Dinneford, at 172 Bond Street, London, and long afterwards told many interesting stories of his experience there. He finally settled at Walworth as a retail and manufacturing pharmacist. He was a frequent speaker at the earlier annual meetings of the Pharmaceutical Society at Bloomsbury. He only received one pupil at a time, undertaking to instruct each in the preparation of the

galenicals of the Pharmacopœia on a considerable scale, and always arranging that one session should be spent in the Society's school. His first pupil was John Attfield, who afterwards became professor at the school and an editor of the *British Pharmacopœia*. It was a great pleasure to Mr. Smith that this first pupil should have attained so high a position in pharmacy and science.

WARNER.—Information was received in London on Wednesday of the death on April 3 of Mr. Wm. Richard Warner, sen., head of the firm Wm. R. Warner & Co., manufacturing chemists and pill-manufacturers, Philadelphia, Pa.

He was born in Maryland in 1837, and before he reached his teens had to begin to earn his own living. He obtained a situation in a drug-store at Easton, and while there learnt all he could from books about pharmacy and its allied sciences. He then attended the classes at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and graduated in 1856. Chemistry was his strong subject; indeed, soon after his graduation he started as a popular lecturer on chemical subjects, but eventually he returned to pharmacy and started a retail store in one of Philadelphia's leading streets. Here he built up a good business, and in 1866 started the wholesale, and later added to it the production of sugar-coated pills. He



soon made a success of it, and paid particular attention to his export trade long before his pharmaceutical *confrères* realised the value of the British and European markets. In the eighties he found it necessary to separate the manufacturing part of his business from his city store, and he built a fine place in the suburbs, which latterly has been under the management of his second son, Mr. Charles Warner, the elder, Mr. W. R. Warner, jun., assisting him in the general management of the business. Mr. Warner never neglected pharmaceutical progress, and took an active interest in his *alma mater*, the Philadelphia College. He had also served as a member of the U.S. Pharmacopœia Committee. He was fond of pharmacy, and particularly so of his old drug-store (burnt down three years ago) with its retail connection that had become atomic in comparison with the wholesale trade. Mr. Warner was distantly related to George Washington, and had a fine collection of portraits of the "Father of the Country" in the art galleries of his home.

WORTS.—On April 9, at Norwich, Mr. Augustine Worts chemist and druggist. Mr. Worts was for many years in business in Harwich.

Recent Will.

HEWLETT.—The will of the late Mr. Charles James Hewlett, pharmaceutical chemist, of 357 Brixton Road, S.W., founder of the firm of C. J. Hewlett & Son, manufacturing chemists, Charlotte Street, E.C., who died on February 25, 1901, has been proved. The net value of the personal estate is stated at 38,302l. 8s. 10d., and testator has bequeathed to his son, Mr. John Cooke Hewlett, his interest in the partnership, subject to the payment by him of an annuity of 200l. a year to Miss Fanny Isabella Hewlett. To the latter is also bequeathed the income on invested securities and furniture and various effects at 357 Brixton Road. To his daughter, Mrs. Kate Hayes, testator leaves 1,000l., and a like amount to his sons-in-law, Dr. E. T. Burton Brown and Mr. Charles Chambers, for the benefit of their children. His niece Virginia Elizabeth White, of Maryland, U.S.A., benefits to the extent of 200l.; C. W. Harrison, of West Virginia, gets 100l.; and other minor bequests are detailed, including one to Mr. J. Barnard, for some time in the employ of C. J. Hewlett & Son. By a codicil dated February 21, 1899, 3,000l. is bequeathed to Mr. John Cooke Hewlett, independently of his benefits under the will itself. The executors are Mr. John Cooke Hewlett and Dr. Frederick Gordon Brown.



Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

THE monthly meeting of the Council was held on April 3 at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin. The President (Mr. George Beggs) was in the chair, and the following other members attended: The Vice-President (Mr. Bernard), and Messrs. Montgomery (Belfast), W. F. Wells, Britton, Simpson, and Brown.

PRIVY COUNCIL APPROVAL.

A letter was read from the Privy Council (Ireland) Office approving of the alteration in the mode of marking the answering in the Pharmacy division of the Licence examination which the Council had previously decided on.

The PRESIDENT: We have been hammering at this for the last two years, and at last they have acceded to our wishes.

Another letter from the Privy Council approved of the appointment of Dr. R. Watt as druggist examiner in Dublin.

A letter from Dr. Watt thanked the Council for electing him; and later on he was nominated for membership of the Society.

PHOTOGRAPHIC POISONS.

A letter from Messrs. Casey & Clay, solicitors to the Society, reported that Messrs. Lafayette and Victor Smith, of Dublin, had each been fined 5*l.* (2*l.* 10*s.* on each of two summonses) for unlawful sale of oxalate of potash and sulphocyanide of ammonium by Mr. Swift, Divisional Police Magistrate, and that Mr. J. B. Laphen, of Dublin, had been fined 5*l.* on each of two summonses for similar offences. The letter stated that Mr. Swift held he had authority under the Dublin Metropolitan Police Act to reduce the 5*l.* penalty imposed by a section of the Act, but expressed his willingness to state a case for the High Court if necessary.

The PRESIDENT: I told Mr. Collins, one of the firm, we were satisfied with Mr. Swift's decision.

The VICE-PRESIDENT: The power of reducing the penalty only exists in Dublin.

A SCHOOL OF PHARMACY FOR BELFAST.

A letter from the Chairman of the Board of the Royal Academical Institution of Belfast contained a second application to the Council to acknowledge their school. Their letter stated they represented one of the most ancient educational trusts in Ulster; that there was now really only one school of pharmacy in Belfast having recognition from the Society—a private school conducted by Mr. Templeton, which had been recognised, having merged in the Working Men's Institute, a recognised school, by the appointment of Mr. Templeton as principal of that institute; that one school of pharmacy was an inadequate provision for the wants of Belfast, which has 350,000 inhabitants; and that the Academical Institution had a large public grant.

The PRESIDENT said Mr. Montgomery would be better able to speak as to this application than any of the Dublin members of the Council; but, as Mr. Templeton's school was now closed, they would not be adding to the number of recognised schools in Belfast if they granted the application. From all he (the President) heard he believed they would be doing well if they recognised the institution. They would, besides, be preventing monopoly.

The VICE-PRESIDENT: It would only be a transfer of one licence.

The PRESIDENT moved that the application of the Academical Institution be acceded to.

Mr. MONTGOMERY, in seconding the motion, said the Council might depend upon it that whatever the Academical Institution undertook to do would be honourably carried out. They had one of the finest laboratories in Belfast, and every facility for chemical teaching. They undertook to give courses for students going to the pharmaceutical profession, commencing at 6 in the evening on each day of the week except Saturday, and commencing at 1 P.M. on Saturdays.

Mr. WELLS: We only recognise those classes.

Mr. MONTGOMERY: Only the classes for pharmacy. The motion passed unanimously.

NOT INCLUSIVE ENOUGH.

A letter from the solicitors enclosed an undertaking from Mr. Thomas Mayne, of Dublin, not in future to sell oxalate of potash or sulphocyanide of ammonium.

Mr. WELLS: He ought to give an undertaking not to sell any scheduled poison.

The Registrar was directed to write to Messrs. Casey & Clay that the undertaking should be not to sell any scheduled poison.

Mr. J. A. McQuillan, of Drogheda, was elected a member. The Council then adjourned.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

At the recent examination the following passed:—J. J. Courtney, H. H. Burrowes, P. J. Timoney, B. R. Allshire, (W. B. Harvey, R. H. Ladley), W. P. J. Gannon, M. Foley, (D. Mitchell, R. Wright), W. C. Lyons, N. W. G. Borthistle, E. Moran, F. Anderson, E. J. Benson. Eleven candidates were rejected.

British Pharmaceutical Conference.

A MEETING of the Executive Committee was held at 16 Bloomsbury Square on Wednesday, April 3, at 4.30. Present:—Mr. G. Claridge Druce (President), in the chair, Dr. Attfield, Dr. Symes, Mr. Atkins, and Mr. E. M. Holmes (Vice-Presidents), Professor Greenish, Messrs. Leo Atkinson, Bird, Warren, and White, Mr. Naylor (Hon. Secretary), and Mr. Hearn (Assistant Secretary). Letters of regret at not being able to be present were received from Messrs. Beggs, Collier, Martindale, and Peck. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

A letter was read from Mr. Wells, of Dublin, recommending that Monday, July 29, be fixed for the opening day of the Dublin meeting; and, on the proposal of Dr. Symes, seconded by Dr. Attfield, that date was agreed upon.

Mr. Naylor reported that the sub-committee appointed to arrange for the publication of the 1901 *Year-book* had selected as editor Mr. J. O. Braithwaite, subject to the approval of the Committee. On the motion of Mr. Atkins, seconded by Mr. Holmes, and supported by Dr. Attfield, the appointment was confirmed.

On the motion of Dr. Symes, seconded by Dr. Attfield, a sub-committee, consisting of Professor Greenish, Mr. Holmes, and the Hon. Secretaries, was appointed to revise the "Blue List." Dr. Attfield kindly promised to assist this sub-committee.

It was reported that the individuals and firms who had promised financial support to a scheme for the appointment of a Research Worker had been invited, in accordance with the resolution passed at the last meeting, to contribute to a Research Fund under the control of the Executive Committee, and that, so far, favourable replies had been received from five guarantors of 5 guineas each for one year. On the motion of Mr. Leo Atkinson, seconded by Mr. Bird, it was resolved gratefully to accept these offers, and the Hon. Secretaries were instructed to convey to the donors the thanks of the Committee. It is hoped that further sums will be received for the support of this fund.

Mr. Naylor reported that the Nightingale Fund amounted to 46*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, and that other donations were promised. The fund was still open. Also that a letter of thanks for the vote of condolence on the death of Dr. Squibb had been received from Dr. E. H. Squibb, of Brooklyn.

Mr. White drew the attention of the Committee to the desirability of authors of papers to be read at the annual meetings supplying the Secretaries with abstracts of them in advance, and the members expressed themselves in hearty accord with the suggestion; but no formal resolution on the subject was taken.

IN THOSE DAYS of busy Food and Drugs Act inspectors Proctor's "Pharmaceutical Testing" is a book every one in the drug-trade should have. The *Druggists' Circular* says:—"By its aid any intelligent pharmacist can have the satisfaction of being able to vouch for the purity of his drugs from his own personal knowledge." Price is 2*s.* 6*d.*, by post 2*s.* 9*d.*, from the C. & D. Office, 42 Cannon Street, E.C.

Legal Reports.

High Court Cases.

THE CALIFORNIAN FIG-SYRUP COMPANY.

IN regard to the application before the Court of Appeal, reported in the *C. & D.* of March 30, by the plaintiffs in an action for damages against the Californian Fig-syrup Company, it should be noted that it was an *ex parte* application made by the plaintiffs' counsel to the Appeal Court for leave to appeal against an order made by the judge directing the plaintiffs to give certain particulars. The application was made in the absence of the defendants, who had no opportunity of being heard. The defendants entirely deny the allegations made by the plaintiffs in the action; and it is only fair to the Californian Fig-syrup Company that no judgment by the trade respecting the matter should be formed until the trial of the action.

KODAK'S INCOME-TAX.

IN the King's Bench Division on April 3, before Mr. Justice Channell and Mr. Justice Phillimore, Mr. Danckwerts, K.C., on behalf of Kodak (Limited), moved for a rule *nisi* calling upon the Commissioners of Income-tax for Clerkenwell to show cause why a writ of prohibition should not issue on the ground that the Commissioners had exceeded their jurisdiction. According to counsel's statement the Surveyor of Taxes had assessed Kodak (Limited) not only for its own profits and dividends but also for those of the American Company, which, counsel contended, was a separate concern. Kodak (Limited), Mr. Danckwerts said, had been assessed on profits it did not own and in which it had no interest until converted into dividends. Their Lordships granted a mandamus calling upon the Commissioners to hear and determine the matter according to law.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

KEEPING OPEN SHOP.

AT the Sheriff Court at Aberdeen on Monday, April 8, Alexander Thomson again appeared before Sheriff-Substitute Robertson on a charge, at the instance of the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society, of having sold by retail a quantity of oxalic acid at his premises in King Street, he not being a registered chemist and druggist, and, further, with having assumed the title of "chemist." The Society was represented by Mr. A. C. Morrison, solicitor, Aberdeen; and Mr. Wm. Sutherland, solicitor, Aberdeen, appeared for the respondent.

Mr. Sutherland said his client pleaded guilty to having contravened the letter of the Act, but he had endeavoured to observe its spirit. His client had had ten years' experience, and had passed the Preliminary examination. He had acted as assistant in chemists' shops in Peterhead, Irvine, Manchester, and Aberdeen, and attended a school of pharmacy in Edinburgh for six months. His intention was to start business for himself, and with that view to pass the Minor examination. In November last, when he was keeping a shop for Dr. Beveridge, this business in King Street was for sale, and he purchased it. He thought that by employing a qualified assistant he would be keeping himself within the letter of the law, and he was paying a qualified assistant 2*l.* per week, while he himself was attending classes at Gordon's College with a view to passing the examination. He was carrying on the business at a loss, for the drawings were only from 3*l.* to 5*l.* weekly, and he had to pay 4*l.* for rent and taxes. He was not aware of having sold the oxalic acid, and he complained that he knew nothing of the charge till seven weeks after, when this complaint was served upon him. The prosecutor even refused to allow him to see the packet in order to find out whether the handwriting on the label was his or not. It was further stated that respondent had entered for the examination and had been up last week for the practical portion, and he understood he had satisfied the examiners. He was to attend for the theoretical portion on Wednesday.

Sheriff Robertson, interposing, said he could not accept such a statement on a plea of guilty. If accused intended

to defend his conduct he should have adhered to his plea of not guilty. If he pleaded guilty he acknowledged having done what he was charged with doing, and such a statement only made the matter worse.

Mr. Sutherland said accused unreservedly admitted the offence. The second offence was based, he understood, on the words "Cash chemist" being displayed on the shop-window. These words were put up by his predecessor in the business.

Mr. A. C. Morrison said the statement made was no excuse for the offences. He pointed out that the High Court had decided that the use of the words "technical chemist" and "photographic chemist" were contraventions of the Act. Owing to accused pleading not guilty at the first diet it had been necessary to cite witnesses in Aberdeen, and from Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Mr. Sutherland stated that he gave notice on Friday that his client would plead guilty.

Mr. Morrison said their witnesses were cited by that time, and they had to countermand the citations. They had been put to considerable trouble and expense, and he asked his Lordship to impose the full penalties and costs.

The Sheriff said this was a serious offence, and it would be necessary to impose more than a nominal penalty. It was essential for the public safety that the provisions of the Acts relating to the sale of poisons should be strictly enforced. They had no recent experience as to the amount of penalty which should be imposed, but he would impose a fine of 1*l.* for each offence and 1*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* costs, and, failing payment, imprisonment for ten days.

Mr. Sutherland asked for time to pay.

The Sheriff: Payment must be made in three days.

Suing the Analyst.

THE action brought by Mr. G. Sangster, aerated-water manufacturer, Aberdeen, against Mr. T. Jamieson, F.I.C., the Aberdeen city analyst, for 1,000*l.* damages, has been dismissed by Sheriff Robertson, with costs to the defendant. The analyst had certified samples of lemonade obtained from defendant as containing traces of lead. Mr. Sangster was prosecuted, but requested that samples be sent to Somerset House, and the Government chemists reported finding a trace of copper but no lead. The complaint against defendant was thereupon withdrawn by the Procurator-Fiscal, but Mr. Sangster claimed that by the publication of the proceedings he had suffered loss and damage. In his note Sheriff Robertson says the defendant is in an impersonal position. Samples are sent to him for analysis, and he does not know whence they come. He makes his analysis and sends it to the sanitary inspector. No doubt the sanitary inspector and the Town Council's legal advisers then consider as to the advisability of a prosecution, which they bring if they think the facts will warrant it. The bringing of this prosecution, which was the thing that did pursuer harm, did not rest with the defendant, but with the Town Council or their advisers, who determine to prosecute.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

THE QUARTER'S FAILURES.

DURING the first quarter of 1901 there have been in England and Wales 22 bankruptcies in the class headed "chemists and druggists." This class includes medical practitioners, herbalists, and drug-store keepers, as well as registered chemists and druggists. In the corresponding quarter last year the failures number 7 only, and 19 in the same period of 1899. The increase of 1901 over 1900 is exceptional, no other commercial branch approaching it. The total failures for the period have been 1,119, against 1,161 in 1900.

Re THOMAS SIMNETT, late of 70 Chapel Road, Clerkenwell, now of 279*a*, Liverpool Road, Islington, Chemist and Druggist.

A RECEIVING-ORDER was made on April 3 at the London Bankruptcy Court against this debtor, on whose behalf a petition was presented by Messrs. Clarke & Co. An order of adjudication was also made by the Registrar. No particulars transpired regarding assets or liabilities.

Re H. O. MACK, trading as Mack & Co., 72 Mark Lane, E.C., Merchant and Importer of Starch, Glue, Gelatin, Farina, &c.

THE adjourned meeting of creditors in this case was held on April 3 at the London Bankruptcy Court, and in the absence of the debtor the case was left in the hands of the Official Receiver to be administered in bankruptcy.

Re WILLIAM THOMAS, 52 Walsall Street, Willenhall, and carrying on business at the Market Place, Willenhall, Chemist and Druggist.

On April 3 the public examination of this debtor took place at the Wolverhampton County Court. Replying to questions by the Official Receiver, debtor detailed the circumstances of his failure, as already published in our issue of March 30, page 530. According to debtor's statement, he presented the business in Walsall Street as a gift to his (debtor's) wife, she paying 30% for the stock-in-trade. Debtor swore positively that the Walsall Street business belonged to his wife, and denied that he had ever told the representative of Messrs. Southall Brothers & Barclay (Limited), Birmingham, when endeavouring to obtain an extension of credit that he had acquired a business in Walsall Street on favourable terms, and he hoped to benefit by it. He always spoke of the business in the plural "we" and "us," referring to himself and wife as being the owners. Occasionally he served customers there, but he did that simply as his wife's agent. The goods sold in the Walsall Street shop were all supplied from his Market Place establishment with the exception of lamp-oil. He produced an account of the takings of the Walsall Street shop, but he was unable to produce any clear debtor and creditor account showing what he charged his wife for the goods supplied. The gift of the Walsall Street property to his wife was conveyed in a separate deed, and was subject to a payment of 18% a year as rent to his mother-in-law. After answering some further questions in a manner with which the Official Receiver professed dissatisfaction, the examination was again adjourned.

Re JOHN DAVIES, 23 Union Street, Torquay, Chemist and Druggist.

THE statement of affairs in this case discloses that the liabilities to fifteen unsecured creditors amount to 64*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, and the assets reach the same figure. The causes of failure alleged by debtor are excessive competition, depression in trade, pressure by creditors, and being an invalid for the past seven years. The Official Receiver's observations are that the debtor commenced business eighteen years ago with a capital of 150*l.*, of which 90% was borrowed. He has kept a bought ledger only and has not balanced his affairs at any time, and there is nothing to show what have been the results from the trading, but the debtor estimated this at about 50% per year. The household-furniture and effects at 2 Higher Terrace, Torquay, are claimed by the debtor's wife. A distress for rent was levied on March 18 on the premises 23 Union Street, Torquay, and unless a purchaser of the business and effects can be found within a few days they will have to be realised by auction. Debtor states that he should not be insolvent if a reasonable sum could be obtained for the stock and effects. In addition to the claim for the rent there are fifteen creditors for 23*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* for goods sold, none of which are for sums over 10*l.*

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Bell, W. R., and Scholefield, R. E., under the style of Bell & Scholefield, Blackheath, surgeons, &c.

Bolton, A., and Pearse, C. G., dentists, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, under the style of Bolton & Pearse.

Bratby, G. S., and Howard, T. H., under the style of Bratby & Howard, Manchester, essence-manufacturers.

Crisp, E. H., Twigg, R. C., and Lawson, R. physicians, &c., Balham, under the style of Crisp, Twigg & Lawson; so far as regards E. H. Crisp.

Deane, J., and Ly'e, F. W., under the style of Deane & Lyle, Ealing, physicians, &c.

Murphy, J. E., Murphy, O. B., and Murphy, J. M., under the style of J. E., O. B., & J. M. Murphy, Derby, Burton-on-Trent, Ashbourne, and Ashby-de-la-Zouch, dentists; so far as regards O. B. Murphy.

Staines, J. F., and Hallen, A. E. H. C., under the style of Staines & Hallen, Bloomsbury Square, W.C., and Walworth Road, S.E., physicians.

Webb, F. J., and Crossley, R., under the style of Webb & Crossley, Gorton and West Gorton, Lancashire, medical practitioners.

Wilson, G., and Wilkinson, S., under the style of the Dee Mineral-water Company, Chester and Cardiff, mineral-water manufacturers.

The Bankruptcy Acts 1883 and 1890

RECEIVING ORDER.

Marshall, James Charnock, Rochdale, late Castleton, Lancashire, Halifax, Yorkshire, manufacturing chemist.

ADJUDICATIONS

Borrie, David (carrying on business as Pooley & Co.), Queen's Road, Plaistow, E., mineral-water manufacturers and co-partners.

Whittaker, Thomas (trading as the Cheetham Chemical Company), Manchester, aniline-dye manufacturer.

Deeds of Arrangement.

Brown, William, 10 Colue Road, Brierfield, chemist and druggist. Trustee, Thomas Procter, Burnley, chartered accountant. Dated, March 28; filed, April 3. Liabilities unsecured, 688*l.* 8*s.*; estimated net assets, 100*l.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Allison & Co., Hull	44	0	0
Bootland, W. R., Eccles	150	0	0
Foggitt, W., Thirsk	15	0	0
Green, F. S., Silsden	50	0	0
Green, T. Silsden	300	0	0
Riley, J., Pendleton	10	0	0
Smith, Jane (executors of), Nelson	12	0	0
Tbomas, W., Nelson	10	0	0
Watson, R., Cowling	16	0	0

Foden, Edwin, 18 Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, pharmaceutical chemist. Trustee, Herbert J. Chaloner, 41 John Dalton Street, Manchester, chartered accountant. Dated, March 26; filed, April 2. Liabilities unsecured, 306*l.* 3*s.*; estimated net assets, 317*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Cook, —	10	0	0
Davies, Mrs. E., Southport	74	0	0
Evans, Son & Co., Liverpool	72	0	0
Guisi, J., London	30	0	0
Jones, E. and E., Chorlton-cum-Hardy	10	0	0
Worth Registered, Middlewich	25	0	0

New Companies & Company News.

THE MECHANICAL RETORTS COMPANY.—Capital 10,250*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of acetic-acid manufacturers carried on by the Mechanical Retorts Company (Limited) (in liquidation), and to carry on that business and the business of manufacturers of mechanical retorts and appliances.

MORGAN, DENTISTS (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a dentist and manufacturer of and dealer in artificial teeth and apparatus, instruments, equipments, and materials used in dentistry, now carried on by Charles Morgan at 56 Queen Street, Cardiff, and elsewhere; to carry on the said business; and to employ qualified persons to act on the company's behalf as dentists, opticians, chemists, &c. The first subscribers are:—D. R. Mitchell, 2 Rawden Place, Cardiff, surgeon dentist; C. W. Fleet, 18 Brecon Street, Cardiff, gentleman; A. Carew, 17 Miskin Street, Cathays, Cardiff, dentist's assistant; J. Croke, 49 Windsor Road, Penarth, retired school-master; Mrs. A. Croke, 49 Windsor Road, Penarth; C. Morgan, 56 Queen Street, Cardiff, surgeon-dentist; and Mrs. E. G. Morgan, 2 Hickman Road, Penarth. C. Morgan is permanent managing director. Qualification, 50 shares. Registered office, 56 Queen Street, Cardiff.

PANSY MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of wholesale and retail manufacturing chemists and druggists now or lately carried on under the style of the "Pansy Manufacturing Company" at 198 Seymour Street, N.W., and to carry on the business of chemists, druggists, druggists' sundriesmen, manufacturers of and dealers in photographic apparatus and requisites, opticians, &c. The first subscribers are:—H. G. Sewell, 730 Old Kent Road,

S.E., pharmaceutical chemist; W. Knowles, 40 Seymour Street, N.W., chemist; T. D. Faucet, 40 Seymour Street, N.W., chemist's assistant; F. H. Hughes, 120 Seymour Street, N.W., chemist; S. Rogers, 1 Croudale Road, N.W., chemist; D. T. Davies, 98 Gray's Inn Road, W.C., chemist's assistant; and D. Morrison, Sussex Villa, Victoria Road, Kentish Town, N.W., traveller. No initial public issue. The number of directors is not to be less than two nor more than five. The first are:—H. G. Sewell, W. Knowles, T. D. Faucet, F. H. Hughes, S. Rogers, D. T. Davies, and D. Morrison. Qualification, 100%. Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, 196-8 Seymour Street, Euston Road, N.W.

MEISTER, LUCIUS & BRUNING (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers and brokers of and dealers in dyes, dyeware, oils, paints, colours, pigments, varnishes, inks, drugs, gum, starch, soap, indiarubber, artificial manures, compounds, cements, minerals, industrial, chemical, pharmaceutical, medicinal, and other preparations and similar goods, dyers, sizers, stainers, bleachers, chemists, druggists, oil and colourmen, drysalts, calenderers, embossers, designers, finishers, spinners, doublers, waterprooferers, &c. The first subscribers are:—W. vom Rath, 56 Untermainkai, Frankfurt-on-Maine, gentleman; A. de Ridder, 66 Mainer Landstrasse, Frankfurt-on-Maine, merchant; G. von Brüning, 1 am Burggraben, Hoechst-on-Maine, chemist; A. Laubenheimer, 3 Feldbergstrasse, Hocchst-on-Maine, chemist; H. von Meister, 11 Wiesenhüttenstrasse, Frankfurt-on-Maine, chemist; C. Blank, 50 Mainzer Landstrasse, Frankfurt-on-Maine, merchant; and A. Haenzer, 16 Windmühlstrasse, Frankfurt-on-Maine, solicitor. No initial public issue. The first directors are:—A. de Ridder, G. von Brüning, and W. vom Rath. Qualification 100%. Registered office, 51 Faulkner Street, Manchester.

RAIMES & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 60,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business now carried on at Stockton-on-Tees, Durham, and at Tredegar Road, Bow, by Frederick Raimes, as a manufacturer and agent, under the style of "Raimes & Co.," and to carry on the business of chemists, drysalts, perfumers, oil and colour men, importers and manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical, medicinal, chemical, industrial, and other preparations and articles, compounds, cements, oils, paints, pigments, and varnishes, drug, dyeware, paint, and colour grinders, manufacturers of photographic, surgical, electrical, and scientific apparatus and materials, &c. The first subscribers are:—Frederick Raimes, Springhurst, Hartburn, Stockton-on-Tees, merchant; Mrs. Maria Raimes, Springhurst, Hartburn, Stockton-on-Tees; Herbert Raimes, Acaster Malbis, York, agent; Walter Raimes, Hartburn, Stockton-on-Tees, manager; Alwyn Raimes, 2 Seacroft Road, York, M.D.; Herbert W. Drabble, Clive Vale, Buckingham Road, South Woodford, Essex, manager; and Frederick T. Nattrass, Hartburn, Stockton-on-Tees, cashier. No initial public issue. The number of directors is not to be less than three nor more than six. The first are Frederick Raimes (permanent governing director), Walter Raimes (permanent director), Frederick T. Nattrass, and Herbert W. Drabble. Qualification, 200%. Remuneration, 50% each per annum.

BOOT'S CASH CHEMISTS (SOUTHERN) (LIMITED).—Capital 300,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (175,000 6 per cent. cumulative preference). Objects: To acquire certain businesses of retail chemists and druggists, drug-merchants, and general storekeepers, at London, Bournemouth, Southampton, Poole, Eastleigh, Salisbury, Winchester, Woolwich, Croydon, Aldershot, Walthamstow, Leytonstone, Reading, Chatham, Tottenham, Maidstone, Canterbury, Oxford, and elsewhere, and to carry on the business of chemists, druggists, surgical, photographic, and scientific-instrument makers, &c. The first subscribers are:—Jesse Boot, Station Street, Nottingham, managing director of Boot's Cash Chemists, Eastern (Limited); E. T. Pritchard, Cathay, Kingston Hill, Surrey, chemist and druggist; G. E. Norrish, 167 Upper Street, Islington, N., chemist and druggist; J. H. Potter, 121 Gleneagle Road, Streatham, chemist and druggist; A. M. Usher, 50 Gaskarth Road, Balham, S.W., chemist and druggist; W. T. Bolwell, 29 Galveston Road, E. Putney, S.W., chemist and druggist; and A. L. Milne, Station Street, Nottingham, Secretary of Boot's Cash Chemists, Eastern (Limited). Minimum subscription, 10 per cent. of shares first offered to public. The first directors are:—Jesse Boot, Edward T. Pritchard, and James Duckworth. Remuneration, 200% per annum, divisible, till 10 per cent. is paid on ordinary shares, then such further sum as the company may decide.

SOUTHALL BROS. & BARCLAY (LIMITED).—In the report for the year ended December 31, 1900, the directors state that during the year they have acquired a manufacturing concern—the best of its kind in the trade—and its acquisition will be likely to assist them materially in developing the Saltley business. The amount paid for the good will of that business has been charged to the year's trading, which otherwise would have yielded a profit in excess of that of

any previous year. The accounts show that, after writing off the goodwill of the new business, and providing for bad debts, depreciation, and directors' remuneration, there is a profit for the year of 11,047*l.*, making, with 1,577*l.* brought forward from last year, a total of 12,625*l.* Out of this have been paid interest on loans 479*l.*, and an interim dividend on preference shares of 1,750*l.*, leaving a balance of 10,396*l.* The directors recommend a second half-year's dividend on the preference shares at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum (paid January 1, 1901), 1,750*l.*; year's dividend on ordinary shares at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, 6,300*l.*; place to reserve 1,000*l.*, and carry forward 1,346*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.*

THE BOOTS-DAY AMALGAMATION.—After we went to press last week we received from Mr. Jesse Boot corroboration of the report referred to on page 565 in regard to Day's Metropolitan and Southern Drug Companies, and it will be seen from a preceding paragraph

that the new company is to be called Boots, Cash Chemists (Southern) (Limited). At present fifty-seven shops belong to Day's Southern Drug Company (Limited) and Day's Metropolitan Drug Company (Limited), and about three others are in preparation. To these, we understand, two or three more will be added, making in all sixty-two to sixty-three branches. Dr. E. T. Pritchard was a director of the two companies, and will continue a director of the new company, and the whole of the present staffs will also retain their positions. Mr. William Day, the founder of the business, has for several years had somewhat indifferent health, he being a victim to asthma, and since he removed his residence from Southampton to London his health has not improved. The statement made by us last week that he is retiring from the drug-trade altogether is, we understand, correct. We may add that Day's Southern Drug Company was the first of the companies formed. It was registered on April 5, 1887, as the Southern Drug Company (Limited), with a capital of 40,000*l.* Day's Metropolitan Drug Company (Limited) was formed in July, 1897, with a capital of 100,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares, for the acquisition from Day's Southern Drug Company (Limited) of the businesses in or around London. Practically all the managers of shops were, in the first instance, shareholders in the company. Dr. Edward Thomas Pritchard, who has been associated with Mr. Day in the management of the companies, is an M.B. C.M. of the Edinburgh University (1885), and a medallist and prize-man in chemistry, botany, materia medica, and other subjects. He was medical superintendent of Pekin Hospital for over seven years, and lecturer in the Medical Department of the Imperial University there. The new development gives Mr. Jesse Boot the footing in London which he appears to have avoided hitherto, and it will be interesting to watch the further progress of the company which six years ago had fewer than thirty shops.



MR. WILLIAM DAY.

"THE ART OF DISPENSING."—It has been a great pleasure to me to read the new edition. The former editions have always found a deal of favour with the students in pharmacy here, and it is certain that this latest edition will have a large circulation. I must congratulate you upon the excellency and comprehensiveness of this work, which is most useful not only at the dispensing-counter, for I also find it a ready help in manufacturing of pharmaceutical products.—ARTHUR E. CHATER (Brisbane).

Scientific Progress.

Oil of Buchu-leaves.—According to Kondakow, the hydrocarbons of this oil consist of a mixture of dextro-limonene and dipentene. The average composition of the oil is as follows:—Hydrocarbons, 10 per cent.; menthone, 60 per cent.; diosphenol, 20 per cent.; resin, 5 per cent.; other bodies, 5 per cent.

Olive-manna.—In the region of Bibans, near the village of Mansourah (Syria), there exists a large number of olives which in the summer exude a great quantity of manna, which the natives call olive-manna. This manna appears to be nearly identical with that of the ash, and, according to Battandier, has the following composition:—Mannite, 52 per cent.; invert sugar, 7.8 per cent.; water, 5.2 per cent.; insect-debris, &c., 12.2 per cent.; matter precipitated by alcohol, 9.3 per cent.—(*Comptes Rendus*, 1901, January 28.)

Solubility of Alkaloids in Carbon Tetrachloride.—Schindelmeiser has determined the solubility of a number of pure alkaloids in carbon tetrachloride. The results should be of value for analytical purposes, so we reproduce the more important of them: 100 parts of the solvent dissolve the following quantities of the respective alkaloids (at a temperature of 17°), morphine, 0.032; narcaine, 0.011; strychnine, 0.645; codeine, 1.328; atropine, 1.136; brucine, 1.973; papaverine, 0.203; cocaine, 18.503. Veratrine is very soluble in this solvent, to the extent of about 60 per cent.

Helicin Derivatives.—Emil Fischer has prepared several new derivatives of the glucoside helicin, which results from the gentle oxidation of salicin by means of dilute nitric acid. If 5 gr. of helicin be dissolved in 25 c.c. of warm water, and 1.2 gr. of pure hydrocyanic acid be added to it, a crystalline cyanhydrin of the glucoside is obtained of the formula $C_{12}H_{14}(CH.OH.CN)_2O.C_6H_{11}O_5$. This compound melts at 176° C., and on hydrolysis yields hydrocyanic acid and salicylic aldehyde. By condensing the glucoside with benzyl cyanide the corresponding phenyl compound is obtained, which melts at 175°–176°.

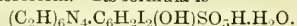
Antipyrin Derivatives.—Michaelis and Gunkel (*Berichte*, 1901, 723) give the results of their work on the action of aniline and of ammonia on the chloride of antipyrin. If equimolecular quantities of aniline and of antipyrin chloride are heated for two hours in an oil-bath, and the reaction-product dissolved in dilute hydrochloric acid and diluted with water, colourless crystals can be precipitated by the addition of weak alkalis. These have the composition $C_{11}H_{12}N_2(NC_6H_5)$ and melt at 120°. This body is anilinoantipyrin, or anilopyrin. By the action of ammonia (in the form of carbonate) on antipyrin chloride under the same circumstances, the authors have obtained the corresponding ammonia derivative $C_{11}H_{12}N_2(NH)$, which they term "imino-pyrin." This body forms crystals melting at 116° C., and is soluble in water, ether, and alcohol.

A New Terpene Alcohol.—According to Genvesse (*Chem. Centralblatt*, 1901, 739), by boiling lead nitrate with limonene a small quantity (about 4 per cent.) of an alcohol of the formula $C_{10}H_{16}O$, isomeric with geraniol, is obtained. Pure limonol, as the author terms this body, is a colourless liquid of peculiar odour, possessing the following characters:—Optical activity, $+19^\circ 21'$; sp. gr., 0.9669; and refractive index, 1.4970. When limonol is oxidised by means of chromic acid, it is converted into the corresponding ketone, limonenone, $C_{10}H_{14}O$, which is a colourless liquid of sp. gr. 0.9606 and optical activity $+16^\circ 4'$. It forms an oxime which melts at 85.5° or, after once melting, at 72°. It appears to be identical with carvoxine, and the ketone, therefore, possibly with carvone. Further evidence is required before this body can be accepted as a new and definite compound.

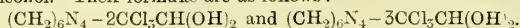
Urotropine Compounds.—The following account of a number of new compounds of hexamethylenetetramine is given by Vaino and Seitter in the current issue of the *Pharm. Central.* (1901, 8, 118):—

With Dibromgallic Acid.—The compound is a red-yellow powder of acid taste, and only slightly soluble in ether and chloroform, but easily so in water and alcohol. Its formula is $(CH_2)_6N_4.C_6Br_2(OH)_5.COOH$.

With Soziadol.—This compound forms small white crystalline needles, melting with decomposition at 180°. The body is very soluble in water, slightly so in alcohol, and insoluble in ether and chloroform. Its formula is

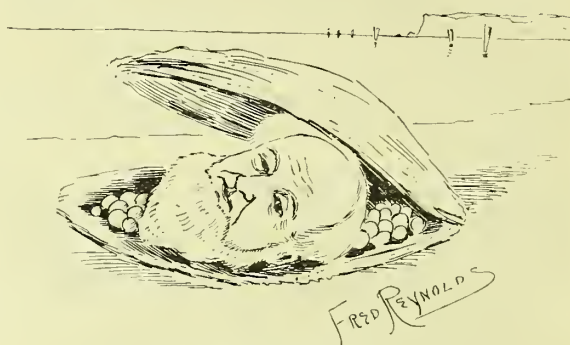


With Chloral Hydrate.—This compound can be prepared with either one molecule of urotropine in combination with two of chloral or with three molecules of the aldehyde. They both form white crystalline powders, with ill-defined melting-points. They are both very soluble in water, but only slightly so in alcohol. Their formulae are as follows:—



Well-defined compounds with sulphuric acid and with ferricyanide of potassium are also described.

Pharmaceutical Fauna.



Avicula Pilulifera.

Source of the pharmaceutical pearl. This species was discovered on April 13, 1854. It was promptly distinguished from other pearl-bearing species of *Avicula* by the rapidity with which it produced pill-shaped pearls of standard sizes, active core, and white, pink, or *au naturel* exterior. It is only found in the environment indicated by the artist—viz, Brighton, or London-by-the-Sea—and the pearls are Blaud ashore, "tasteless and odourless."

Ye Crosse of Syr Gowynne.

Noe haughtye mynde have I,
And prydefulle lookes are wearynge,
My nose ne'er tylt, nor hyghe on styltes
Stalke I with lordlye bearynge.
Noe haughtye mynde have I,
And prydefulle lookes are wearynge.

Small scorn gleammes in myne eye,
My smyle is brodde and genial;
And eche and alle in hutte or hall,
Saye not my bearynge's menial.
No scorn is in myne eye,
My smyle is naught butte genial.

My wayes are mylde and meeke
For suche a hygh-bredde partye;
I have sate and eate and learnte at ye feete
Of ye one and onlye Cartye!
Yette alle my wayes are meeke,
Tho suche an hygh-bredde partye.

In a welle-knowne antient towne
An lowlye lyfe I'm leadynge,
And one lette droppe yat I keepe a shoppe
In spyte of alle my pleadynge.
A shoppe in an antient towne
Is ye lowlye lyfe I'm leadynge.

Butte one must drawe ye lyne
Atte rankynge with greyne-grohssere.
It stynges my pryde; I can't abyde
Ye thoughte of that. Noe, noe, syr:
I reallye drawe ye lyne
Atte shuttyng with greyne-grohssere.

Tobaccoe-shoppe or e'en
Ye festyve roysterynge ayle-house
With me maye ope and lett us hope
That alle wyl thronge our sayle-house—
Ye druggyst-shoppe or e'en
Ye festyve roytorynge ayle-house.

THE AMERICAN CONSUL-GENERAL at St. Petersburg says that the Ural platinum deposits are the only mines of that description which are being successfully worked in Russia, and they furnish 96 per cent. of the world's supply. The most valuable territory is owned and operated by a French syndicate, but there are a few private mines still in the hands of the peasants, which are being worked after the old methods.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

Candidate-Baiting

is now in season. We have still to wait for the authorised programmes of the seventeen candidates for the seven seats, but several of them have already hung their banners on the outer walls. A feature of the nominations is the generous readiness of Scotland and Lancashire to assume the pharmacists' burden. Six of the contestants—and these comprise all the "strenuous" ones—step into the arena with either the thistle or the red rose in their bonnets. To this London, which has been so often denounced as the Council monopolist, meekly responds by offering a single new-blood contribution, and this one an already defeated one.

Mr. Paterson

will require the aid of all his ingenuity to justify his appearance in the list. This gentleman maintains that the prevailing method of procedure in regard to the nomination and election of members of the Council is an abomination and a contravention of the charter and covenant; and it is from members whom he has convinced on this point that he must look for his support. "Paris is well worth a Mass," said the easy conscientious King of Navarre, and Mr. Paterson seems similarly willing to pocket his cherished convictions in exchange for a seat on the Council; but Scotchmen must have strangely changed if they are prepared to adopt the diplomatic Frenchman's standard of morality.

Mr. Lord Gifford

is obliging enough to reply to my query about his legislative policy, and, as I expected, he is unable to define it. He would have claimed inclusion in Clause 3 of the Companies Bill, he says. That is, he would enact that no company shall carry on the business of a physician, surgeon, dentist, chemist and druggist, or midwife. This is definite enough, but it is as hopeless as it is definite, and it would be merely masquerading for Mr. Gifford to go to Bloomshury with such a policy. It would be as practicable to elect Mr. Gifford on that ticket as to send a professed Jacobite to the House of Commons. But to do Mr. Gifford justice, or rather to remedy the injustice he does himself, it may be added that this is not his policy. At least, it is not the policy which he has often enough suggested. In his letter of March 19 last (*C. & D.*, March 23, page 492), Mr. Gifford said: "We are not trying, and do not wish, to prevent companies any more than individuals from carrying on the general drug-trade. We have stripped the question to a purely professional basis." The Lord Chancellor's clause with chemists in it would prevent companies from carrying on the drug-trade. What Mr. Gifford has to do is to so recast the clause if he can that companies, while not being prevented from carrying on the general drug-trade, can be debarred from exercising professional pharmacy. Let us see his scheme clearly drafted in statutory language separate from the gas and squibbs with which we are already too familiar.

The Early-closing Bill

has evidently secured the "favourable consideration" of a vast majority of chemists and druggists. The vote in the Pharmaceutical Council is interesting testimony to the development of opinion in this direction. In 1895 the topic was waved aside in the Council with a lofty smile; in 1901 its most decided opponents only ventured on a recommendation to shunt it, and dared not definitely resist it. But merely "favourable consideration" will never get the Bill through Parliament. If the tradesmen of this country really want the proposed legislation they

can have it; but they must make Lord Salisbury and his colleagues understand that they are not looking on this as merely a subject for debate, but that they are in real earnest about it. It is their business, and Parliament nowadays yields to force much sooner than to reason.

Clause 7

of the Pharmacy Bill as framed by the lawyers is certainly not the happiest specimen of English as she is wrote in Acts of Parliament. But I do not think it is possible to construe it in the way that Mr. J. R. Hill explained it to the Edinburgh chemists, and as the Glasgow Chemists' Association evidently understand it. It seems to have been assumed in those quarters that the clause would allow a company to run a chemist's business if one or more of its directors were qualified, and that it might have, besides, other directors who were not to take part in the management of that business. But this can hardly be a correct interpretation. The clause requires that the director or directors of any joint-stock company formed to retail or dispense or compound poisons or medical prescriptions must be registered persons "who" (the antecedent of which is registered persons) "shall exercise all such powers of the company as are not by the Companies Act required to be exercised by the company in general meeting." This surely leaves no room for any director or directors of such a company who is not or are not a registered person or persons.

Grey Powder,

the adjective spelt with an "e" and not with an "a," is how most of us would write the usual English name of the popular mercurial. But an artist has pointed out to me that this method of indicating the colour is, if not wrong, at least not in accord with the practice of scientific colourists. In support of that statement he gives me the following quotation from "The Artists' Manual of Pigments," by H. C. Standidge:—"Gray is a term used for a mixture of white and blue; grey refers, among colour-scientists, to a mixture made by white and black." According to this definition, *hyd. cum creta* is certainly rather gray than grey. To confirm or dispute this view I turned to the Oxford English Dictionary, where I found a quotation from another artists' text-book to the same effect as that just given. "The distinction between grey and gray," says Field's "Chromotography," "should be carefully observed. Grey is composed only of black and white; the term gray is applied to any broken colour of a cool hue, and therefore belongs to the class of chromatic colours."

The Anglo-Saxon

"græg," from which gray and grey descend obviously permits either spelling. The only other words of analogous origin are key, whey, and clay. In 1893 Dr. Murray asked various authorities what their practice was. The *Times* replied that they always used "gray"; Messrs. Spottiswoode and Messrs. Clowes, among the leading printers, said they adopted "grey." Other firms said they had no fixed rule. Many correspondents told Dr. Murray that they had an idea that grey meant a more delicate or lighter tint than gray. Other dictionary-makers treat the words as alternative except Webster, who dogmatically declares that gray is "the correct orthography," but gives no reason. As for the mercurial, the B.P., "Squire," and, I think, all other modern English standards give "grey powder," but I find it spelt "gray" in Christison's Dispensatory. The U.S. Pharmacopœia does not give the name as a synonym, but describes the colour of the powder as "gray." Parrish and the "National Dispensatory" write "gray," but the U.S. "Dispensatory" adopts "grey." I submit that a case has been made out for the consideration of the B.P. revisors.

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Editorial Comments.

Early Closing.

SOME misapprehension appears to exist in regard to the application of Lord Avebury's Shops (Early Closing) Bill owing to the fact that all the details of the measure have not been considered. It is therefore advisable, before dealing with the recommendations of Chemists' Associations, to refer to the provisions which directly interest our readers. First, it may be noted that "shop," within the meaning of the Bill, refers to "any building or portion of a building, booth, stall, or place where goods are exposed or offered for sale by retail, and includes a place where the business of a barber is carried on." The definition is thus sufficiently wide to include all forms of retail trading with the exception of the classes of shops to which the provisions of the measure do not apply, viz.—(1) Premises in which any intoxicating

liquor is sold by retail for consumption on or off the premises, (2) refreshment-houses, (3) tobacconists' shops, and (4) news-agencies. These exemptions are specified in a schedule to the Bill, while the "saving for chemists" is contained in the clause which renders any pharmaceutical chemist, chemist and druggist, or registered druggist (since the Bill applies to the whole United Kingdom) non-liaible to the fine for supplying medicines, drugs, or medical appliances after the hour determined by the local vote and appointed by the local authority. It should not, however, be assumed that the local vote is necessarily to be taken by all classes of shopkeepers, as the opinion was expressed at the Pharmaceutical Council last week, for Clause 1 of the Bill expressly permits any class or classes of shopkeepers to move in the matter. Thus it will be possible for the drapers of a "district" (which means "the area within which a local authority has jurisdiction") to take a vote amongst themselves, but this will not be binding upon any other class. Even although all the classes in a district join in the vote, any class—chemists and druggists, for example—has still the power of abstaining from the vote, and in any case the two-thirds majority of the chemists and druggists will have to be obtained before the order can be applied to them. It is thus evident that ample provision is made for the special circumstances of every class of trade, and it is also provided in the case of the half-holiday that any individual shopkeeper who closes earlier than 7 o'clock on a day other than that generally agreed upon shall get an order from the local authority covering him. The Bill contemplates some difficulty in regard to classification of trades, such as may arise where there are very mixed businesses, and power is given to the district Court of Summary Jurisdiction to settle questions of classification. It is, however, provided that

A shop in which trades of two or more classes are carried on shall be closed for the purpose of all such trades, including any trade referred to in the schedule of this Act, at the hour at which it is by any order made under this Act required to be closed for the purpose of any of them. Provided that nothing in this Act shall restrict the hours for the sale by retail of any intoxicating liquor or of hot cooked provisions.

Under this clause (the fifth) it will be necessary for druggists who do a grocery business, as is commonly the case in Ireland, to entirely shut up their shops at the hour fixed by the local authority in consequence of the vote of two-thirds of the grocers in the district; but Clause 9 will permit such druggists to intimate by placard that the owner or his employé is in the shop and will supply "medicines, drugs, or medical appliances" to anyone who rings the bell or pushes open the door. The intention of the Bill is to encourage early shopping as well as early closing, and it can best be secured in cases which come under Clause 9 by ostensible closing of the shop. In practice, we should think that the night-bell so long in vogue will not diminish in usefulness. The Bill says:—

"Closed" means not open for the serving of any customer: provided that nothing in this Act or any order made thereunder shall be deemed to render unlawful the continuance in a shop after the hour appointed for the closing thereof of any customers who were in the shop immediately before that hour, or the serving of such customers during their continuance therein.

Clause 9 permits the shop of a pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist to be open as far as necessary for the purpose of supplying medicines, &c. No one, we hope, will argue that that means a fully illuminated shop and half-closed door. It may be noted, further, that the Bill provides for the revocation of any order on the application of the

occupiers of more than one-third of the shops of any class opposed to the continuance of the order, also that a shopkeeper has a vote for each shop that he occupies in a district.

We now come to the wording of Clause 9, in regard to which we have received some criticisms and suggestions. The clause is as follows:—

"A pharmaceutical chemist, or chemist and druggist, or registered druggist, shall not be liable to any fine under this Act for supplying medicines, drugs, or medical appliances, after the hour appointed by an order made under this Act for the closing of shops; but this section shall not be deemed to authorise the shop of a pharmaceutical chemist, or chemist and druggist, to be open after the said hour, save so far as may be necessary for the purpose aforesaid."

The criticisms are subjoined:—

Would add to it limited companies carrying on business as chemists and druggists, and doctors keeping open shop. (*Aberdeen.*)

As the public can always ascertain where the chemists live, we approve, but would prefer more precise wording to make it clear that shops must not be open after the specified time. (*Aberdeen-shire.*)

The clause would make little difference here. Lights are kept burning in shops, but the door is closed. If hours in pharmacies are regulated, Sundays ought to be included. (*Belfast Pharmacists.*)

It should be possible to sell nursery requisites, children's foods, feeding-bottles, &c.; that is, if these are not included or covered already. (*Belfast Druggists.*)

May be open to abuse if not carefully worded and guarded. It is absolutely necessary that it should be carried out rigidly in the spirit of the clause. (*Glasgow.*)

It will be very awkward to draw a line as to what are medicines and what are not. For example, a syphon of soda-water might be refused by some chemists when it was required for sickness, and we could not expect a doctor's letter for such a thing each time. (*Manchester.*)

It would jeopardise the freedom of the public to a certain extent, and we think it should stop at "for the closing of shops." (*Sheffield.*)

Many chemists have wine-licences, and their shops cannot be completely closed by the Bill. (*Wigan.*)

The clause undoubtedly requires amendment, and we think that the inclusion of the words "and surgical" between "medical" and "appliances" would suffice to cover all that is necessary, for it is not desirable to be too specific. Mr. Wootton was somewhat closely examined a few years ago by the Select Committee of the House of Lords on this very point, and he expressed the opinion that it would be well to leave the interpretation of "medical appliances" to the circumstances governing each case. It must not be forgotten that anything in the nature of a "roaring trade" after shop-hours is contrary to experience. The suggestion in regard to the inclusion of doctors' shops and limited companies may have to be provided for: as the Bill now stands their shops would fall into the chemist class, but they would not enjoy the exemption of Clause 9. The suggestion in respect to shops having wine-licences is already covered by Clause 5 above quoted. The post-office matter has already been brought before the Committee, and it will doubtless be reported upon before the House of Lords.

Since our last issue we have received the vote of the Tunbridge Wells Chemists' Association, which is in favour of the Bill. The Blackburn Association, although in sympathy with the Bill, resolved at a committee-meeting recently to leave the matter to the Pharmaceutical Council to deal with. It may therefore be taken that out of fifty-five Associations which have voted fifty-three are in favour of the Bill. To these we may add the chemists of Aylesbury, who through Mr. E. T. Palmer inform us that they are in favour of the Bill, as is also the case in the Hexham district, thus making the support still greater. Three Associations recommend that the early closing should not be left to local option, but should be made compulsory.

Samples with Analyses.

It is well known in the wholesale drug-trade that the valuation of samples exposed for sale by brokers in the Mincing Lane district is one of the most onerous duties which fall to buyers. In most cases buyers have to rely entirely upon their experience, and judge of values by physical appearances of specimens. There are, however, some articles which are so dubious that the custom has arisen within recent years of adding to the catalogue-description an analysis by some chemist of repute, and it is generally agreed that such analyses are put forward as an assurance to buyers of the quality of the articles. This is especially the case in regard to essential oils, so that purchases on "Umney's analysis," "Parry's analysis," and the like are comparatively common. Although sales are always made by sample, we have never heard it disputed that an accompanying analysis is a material factor in the sale—in fact, a guarantee; but recently a controversy in the Lane has opened up the whole matter, and it is advisable to put the facts on record for future guidance, the principle involved being of considerable importance to buyers and sellers generally.

Some time ago a parcel of copaiba was offered in public sale which was certified by an analyst to yield over 78 per cent. of essential oil, and his certificate was printed in the sale-catalogue. On the strength of this certificate, an American distiller gave an order to a London firm to buy the parcel; and it was accordingly bought by private treaty after the sale, the analysis being re-quoted by the sellers in their offer. The copaiba was promptly shipped to the United States, where the consignee found that the whole parcel yielded only 45 per cent. This result was at once communicated to the London house, and a claim made for the loss incurred. It happened that the original dock-samples remained intact in the selling-broker's possession, so another analyst was asked to report upon the copaiba, and the whole of the dock-samples were sent to him. He found 46.5 per cent. by volume or 42 per cent. by weight of oil. This result was put before the seller by the selling-brokers, but he declined to entertain the claim, on the ground that the printed analysis was a "description," not a "warranty," and declined arbitration. The selling-brokers then put the matter before the President of the Brokers' Association, who replied that whilst he fully appreciated the position of the buyer, he did not see how his Association could assist him with his claim, as the goods had left England; but he suggested that part of the remainder of the dock-samples should be sent to the original analyst, and if he found a mistake, to make another appeal to the sellers. This suggestion was carried out, and the analyst now reported that the copaiba contained 45.2 per cent. of oil, thus practically corroborating the distiller's result and the second analyst's report, his second analysis also pointing to a mistake in the original sample sent him, rather than to an error in his own working. This result was communicated to the sellers, who replied: "The present result of the original analyst is of no interest whatever to us, especially after such a long time has expired" (really a month after the prompt-day), and they repeated that the original analysis was not a guarantee, but only a description given in good faith, and they again declined to consider the buyer's claim. Now the buyer maintained the question at issue to be whether goods sold upon analysis should or should not accord with the analysis; and he again pressed for arbitration, which the sellers once more declined, stating that they had bought the parcel through another broker (the analysis was made after their purchase from the original sellers);

and concluding that "the copaiba was sold on sale conditions, therefore any claim must be made within the prompt." The buyers' solicitors advised that this latter plea was good in law, and that the sellers were entitled to take advantage of it.

So ended the dispute; but the question of principle remains, and we submit it for consideration by the Brokers' Association and the Drug Club. At present it is perfectly understood in Mincing Lane circles that no broker prints an analytical report in his catalogue unless for the express purpose of proving the value of the goods to which the report is attached. Usually such analyses are, by common consent, taken to be a guarantee, and to need no corroboration, but the case referred to leaves the matter in doubt. There is a good deal to be said in favour of the contention that an analysis printed in a catalogue is a "description," and not a guarantee; but that does not relieve the seller from the obligation of supplying an article according to description. Suppose the copaiba was of a reputed mark—say, BO in diamond—and the article delivered was XY in square, the buyer would be in exactly the same position as the buyer of 74-per-cent. copaiba, who gets a 46-per-cent. article. Unquestionably arbitrators would side with the buyer. It is further obvious that the prompt conditions practically exclude redress when the goods are exported, unless a corroborative analysis is obtained before delivery—a thing not always possible. This is a point which also deserves consideration.

U.S. Public Dispensers.

SOME time ago we referred to the efforts which the American Pharmaceutical Association were making to raise the status of the pharmacists of the U.S. Army and Navy. Some sort of concession has been made by the Government conferring the rank of first-lieutenant upon certain pharmacists in the National Guard, but a movement is on foot to deprive those National Guard pharmacists of this title. Dispensers, or apothecaries as they are called, in the State asylums, hospitals, and prisons are under the control of the Commission of Lunacy, the Board of Charities, and the Superintendent of Prisons respectively. There are twelve asylums under the jurisdiction of the Commission of Lunacy, the salaries of the apothecaries in these institutions being \$40 a month with maintenance, or \$50 without, for the first year, and an increase of \$2 a month per year for five years. In the three institutions under the jurisdiction of the Board of Charities slightly higher salaries are paid. Under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of State Prisons there are four institutions at which apothecaries are employed, and these are treated a great deal better than their brethren in the other State institutions. One of the prisons has the reputation of paying \$100 a month to its apothecaries, while the hospital of the prison for the criminal insane pays at the same rate as the asylums. The two remaining institutions in this Government department pay \$72 per month without maintenance. The condition of the pharmacists in asylums appears, therefore, to need most attention. The work is hard as a rule, the number of patients very large; for while the apothecary has generally charge of the pharmaceutical department, the position entailing considerable responsibility and requiring a man of good technical education and executive ability, he is treated more like a labourer than a professional man. The physicians are officers of the asylum to which they are attached, but the pharmacist gets the same accommodation as a nurse or a mechanic, and if he does not like it he has the privilege of paying \$10 or as much more as he can spare from his private resources for better quarters outside

the institution—a privilege of which a number avail themselves. It is evident that an organisation is necessary somewhat on the lines of the Public and Poor-law Dispensers' Association of Great Britain, in order that pharmacists in State institutions should see that they are maintained in a manner befitting their station of life.

DOCTORS' SHOPS.

The Executive Committee of the General Medical Council met on February 5, and the minutes of the meeting are just published. We note that the resolution adopted at the meeting of medical practitioners in Glasgow on January 23, expressing the opinion that the decision of the Council with regard to the sale of drugs and poisons by persons not qualified under the Pharmacy Act was unwarrantable, and interfered with the rights and privileges of the profession, was received. There was also a communication from the solicitor in regard to the same matter, but no resolution was come to by the Executive Committee.

A FUTILE INSPECTION.

There was to have been a medical examination at the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin, on January 21 and following days, but no candidates entered. A telegram was received at the offices of the General Medical Council in London after office-hours on January 19 (Saturday), too late to stop the visit of the Council's inspector on the Monday following. The inspector found no examination was to take place, and now the General Medical Council request the Hall to refund the needless expense of 16*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* which the visit cost the Council. The Executive Committee also remind the Hall that their own published regulations require candidates to give notice and pay the fees fourteen days before the first day of examination. The General Medical Council's regulations also require that fourteen days' notice shall be given them. Neglect of these rules may prove expensive to the Hall, and draw attention to laxity in the administration of its medical affairs, which, after all, are now quite secondary to its trading interests.

VIAMI ANALYSED.

Mr. J. Carter Bell, public analyst to the county of Chester, informs the *British Medical Journal* that the liquid Viami remedy which he has analysed contained 30 per cent. of sugar with tincture of hydrastis and morphine. The pills contain, it is said, besides sugar, aloes and colocynth. Our contemporary suggests that the Pharmacy Act might be put into operation against sellers of the remedies who are not qualified according to the Act, which suggestion has a wide significance, having regard to the class of agents the company endeavours to appoint. Preparations of morphine do not, however, require to be signed for, as the *British Medical Journal* states, but the argument is not weakened by the fact that morphine preparations are under the less stringent regulations of Part 2 of the poison schedule. The remedies are chiefly distributed through the agency of women who are not registered chemists and druggists or medical practitioners.

The following is an extract from the annual report of a Welsh cottage hospital:—"Notwithstanding the large amount of money expended for medicine and medical attendance there were but few deaths during the year."

THE CHEMICAL SOCIETY'S meeting next week will be held on Thursday, April 18, at 8 P.M. Amongst the papers are two from the Imperial Institute laboratories, the first on the "Action of Alkylhaloids on Aldoximes and Ketoximes" (Part II.), by Wyndham R. Dunstan and E. Goulding. The second is on "The Supposed Existence of Two Isomeric Trichlyloxamines," by the same authors.

Minor Reforms.

By JAMES REID.

FIRST comes the question of hours. I know there has been a vast improvement in this respect in many districts recently, and even where there is no improvement my sympathies are all with chemists who cannot see their way to close earlier, as they think that by doing so they would be crushed out altogether. For a long time, however, I have been persuaded that this is false reasoning. Of late years all other kinds of shops have been closed earlier, and it is now quite common to see whole streets, in which no shops are open after 8 P.M. except public bars, tobacco-shops, ice-cream shops, and chemists' shops. This is calculated to keep down the status of pharmacy. What do we find in practice? The stores man comes to his place of business early in the morning, and if he is not very busy, during the day, he succeeds by a constant bustle and hustle in making people believe that he is doing an enormous business. At 7 P.M. he closes up, and if anybody comes and taps the door when he is counting his cash, he shoves a hemisphere of his head over the top of the shutter, in the doorway, and hurls a volume of abuse at the unfortunate customer which sends him over the whole community with terrible stories of this man, composed mainly from sentiments of admiration, fear, astonishment, and a maudlin sentiment. The chemist comes to his place about 10 A.M. In Scotland he asks "Johnnie," in England "Joe," whether there are any letters. There aren't any, so he goes away to have a chat with a shoemaker down the street, and does not come back before 12 noon. Meantime his boys have been standing on the pavement talking to other boys, and advertising the fact that the master is out and business has not begun. During the boy's dinner-hour the master has a smoke in the back shop, surrounded by old returned bottles, dusty jars (mostly empty), parcels from the ends of which dusty soiled goods protrude; and it is more than likely that he himself will find, on rising, that he has seated himself on $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of something sticky. About 5 in the afternoon he knocks the ash out of his pipe, places it on a shelf, and comes forward with the remark that people will be beginning to do business shortly. From 6 to 11 a few people do turn up for odd pennyworths, and perhaps before closing-time he may have from 1*l.* to 1*l.* 10*s.* in his till. He considers this rather good, and feels that he has been fairly well paid for a fourteen-hours day—not of work. Now, I am firmly convinced that if this man would open at 8 A.M., be behind the counter himself not later than 9 A.M., keep his place bright and clean, stick to the counter throughout the day, and close not later than 3 P.M., he would not only help himself, but his profession.

Then there is the question of shop-appearance. In large towns there are yet a vast number of chemists' shops which are no cleaner or brighter-looking than rag-and-bone stores. In the windows there are a few feeding-bottles, half-a-dozen tins of fruit salts, a few empty soap-boxes, and the usual red carboys. The whole has a sun-bleached, and dusty appearance beyond all description. Inside there are a good many old show-bottles having gilt labels very much scratched and broken, drawers which have not got a rub for years, cases on the counter having broken glass outside, and ancient-looking goods inside, which carry us back with a melancholy pathos to apprentice-days. There is wax-cloth on the floor, but it is worn out and evidently never gets washed. The back shop is mostly in an altogether indescribable condition of dirt and "sin and misery," to quote from a Scottish work on theology. Now, there is no excuse for this. It does not take a lot of money to make a place look bright.

Then there is the question of friendship and etiquette, which have both been lacking amongst chemists, but I am glad to see that the "Alma Mater" feeling is beginning to bear fruit. It is in the interests of pharmacy, that all chemists in a district be on terms of friendship with each other, and that feelings of jealousy be as far as possible kept down. Etiquette amongst chemists might also be greatly improved. A year or two ago, a gentleman asked me to communicate with a chemist in another part of the county about a prescription. I did so, but the chemist communicated with the patient and never acknowledged me in the matter. No professional man would behave in this way.

Winter Session.

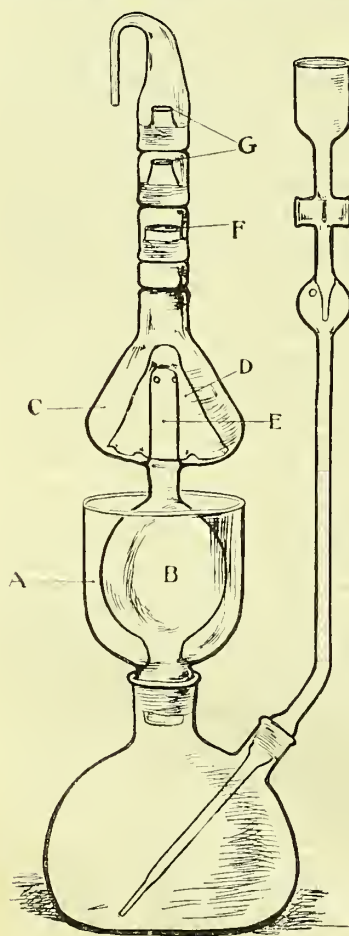
Notices of meetings to be held are inserted under "Coming Events." If meetings are not attended by reporters, secretaries of associations would oblige by communicating with the Editor.

Society of Public Analysts.

A MEETING of the Society was held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., on April 3, Mr. Otto Hehner in the chair. Among the papers read was one by Mr. F. C. J. BIRD on

THE GUTZEIT TEST FOR ARSENIC.

The possible fallacies of the test were first pointed out, and the fact noted that no simple method has been described of demonstrating the nature of a supposed arsenical stain. It is necessary for uniform results that constant conditions should be observed. These are best met by ensuring (1) complete solution of a given weight of zinc in a given time; (2) maintenance of a constant temperature; and (3) limiting the volume of solution in the generating-flask. These conditions are best fulfilled by completely dissolving 4 gr. of zinc in fifteen minutes at the boiling temperature in a volume which should not exceed 100 c.c. The apparatus which Mr. Bird has devised for his improved Gutzeit test is illustrated in the accompanying drawing. The funnel-tube



on the right hand is for delivering the acid slowly into the flask. A is a cup-shaped vessel containing water, which acts as a condenser to the vapour in the watch-shaped bulb B. The evolved hydrogen passes into the tube E, and passes through holes at the top of the tube, and is led by means of the inverted funnel D through a 10-per-cent. solution of lead acetate in C. Thence the gas passes upwards through discs of mercuric-chloride paper at G and F. The mercuric-chloride discs are prepared by moistening white filter-paper with 5-per-cent. mercuric chloride, drying, and cutting out with a cork borer. The discs are fastened at G and F by moistening the ground edges of the glass with gum. The diameter of the mercuric disc is 5 m.m., and $\frac{1}{100}$ milligramme of As_2O_3 produces on it an orange colour in about ten minutes. The diameter is limited so as to obtain the greater proportion of arsenic to mercury, which facilitates the subsequent identification. F is an additional tube upon which a disc of lead-acetate paper may be placed if thought necessary. The quantity of pure hydrochloric acid used is to be in all cases half

the volume of the test liquid, and it should be delivered in ten minutes, after which the contents of the flask receive five minutes' further boiling. Absence of any means of identifying the stain obtained by this test has been held to be a fatal objection, but Mr. Bird has worked out what he believes to be a thoroughly satisfactory method. The stained disc or discs are detached from the tips of the tubes by moistening with a wet glass rod and placed in a watch-glass. About 1 c.c. of pure hydrochloric acid is added, the whole warmed, and the acid poured off. This method of removing the mercury salt is repeated a second time, the paper by this time being of a brick-red colour. Half a c.c. of bromated hydrochloric acid is next added to dissolve the arsenical deposit, and leaves the paper colourless. The resulting liquid is placed in a tiny test-tube and identified as arsenic by adding an equal volume of stannous-chloride solution. With as small a quantity as $\frac{1}{100}$ milligramme As_2O_3 a pink-brown colour immediately appears. The test is especially adapted for quickly finding out whether a substance contains a quantity of arsenic exceeding certain limits, and rapidly gives an approximate quantitative determination according to the depth of colour of the stannous-chloride test.

In the discussion which followed Mr. C. T. TYRER said he appreciated the paper very much, but thought the boiling temperature decreased the chance of obtaining concordant results. He mentioned that he is now experimenting with a test proposed by Dr. Atterberg, of Kalmarsund, which depends on the fact that arsenious acid heated with concentrated hydrochloric acid is entirely volatilised as arsenious chloride, which can be dissolved in water and afterwards obtained as dry arsenic acid by treatment with nitric acid and evaporating.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

THE annual general meeting was held at the Victoria Hotel on Wednesday evening, Mr. Harry Kemp in the chair. The report of the Council for the session 1900-1901 stated that the syllabus had to be varied on two or three occasions, but in no case had the Association been without other items to fill in the evenings. The attendances had been better than for several sessions past. Reference was made to the principal matters discussed and to the events of the session.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, said it had been suggested that the meetings might be held in the afternoon instead of the evenings. Perhaps alternate afternoon and evening meetings might suit the members.

Mr. W. LANE seconded the motion. He had regretted to hear that one or two members contemplated resignation because more was not done by the Association, and trusted to hear ere long that they had not only retained their membership, but had induced others to join. Afternoon meetings might meet the convenience of some, though, as far as he could remember, afternoon meetings in the past had not been a success. At that time it was considered that evening meetings would be the best. Some eight or ten years had elapsed since afternoon meetings were held.

The CHAIRMAN: More than that.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The TREASURER (Mr. A. J. Pidd) read his accounts, which showed that the year commenced with a balance in hand of 14*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, and the total receipts brought this balance up to about 90*l.*, and the expenses left a balance in hand of 13*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* The total loss on the year was 14*s.* 5*d.*

The CHAIRMAN considered it a very satisfactory balance-sheet, and it was adopted.

The Council was re-elected, with only one alteration—the substitution of Mr. L. Westmacott for Mr. T. Woodruff. Their names are Messrs. J. C. Kidd, H. Kemp, W. Kirkby, W. Lane, W. Gibbons, A. J. Pidd, J. Taylor, L. Westmacott, G. S. Woolley, J. Wild, J. W. Walton, and E. Yates.

Mr. G. S. Woolley was unanimously re-elected President; Messrs. Harry Kemp and W. Kirkby, Vice-Presidents; Mr. A. J. Pidd was re-elected Hon. Treasurer. Mr. J. W. Walton, through ill-health, resigned the post of Hon. Secretary, but remained a member of the Council. Mr. J. C. Kidd was unanimously elected his successor. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Walton, and Mr. J. Blyton was re-appointed auditor.

This closed the business of the meeting. A smoking-concert followed. Selections were given by the Doric Quartette; there were recitations by Mr. Leonard Clarkson; and songs were rendered by Messrs. Crowe, G. Crews, L. N. Burch, and J. H. Franklin. Mr. L. Pontefract presided at the pianoforte.

Nottingham Chemists' Association.

A WELL-ATTENDED meeting was held on Wednesday evening, April 10, when Mr. EBERLIN, the hon. secretary, read an instructive paper on bacteria. He gave an historical account of our knowledge of this branch of science. For the purposes of study he took a specific micro-organism—the bacillus of consumption—and described it fully to the meeting, especially in regard to its life history. Mr. Eberlin then referred to the various theories relating to the immunity from disease, and also gave some interesting information about diphtheria and cholera, and touched on the various forms of typhoid, laying great stress upon the need for disinfection. He showed a chart depicting the place in nature occupied by diphtheria, and another illustrating the various bacteria mentioned in the paper. He also exhibited under the microscope specimens of bacteria kindly lent for the occasion by Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. At the close Mr. Eberlin was heartily thanked for his excellent paper.

Sheffield Pharmaceutical Society.

A MEETING was held at the Montgomery Hall on Wednesday evening, April 10, for the reading of papers by the students who are competing for prizes offered by Mr. J. Austen and Mr. Percy Carr. The three subjects specified were: "The Chemistry of the Breakfast-table"; "Spring Flowers and Where to Find Them"; "Uses of B.P. Test-solutions." The competitors were Messrs. W. M. Cooper, A. H. Culverhouse, R. Tildesley, and A. Wright. The papers will be submitted to two judges, and the awards will be made at a smoking-concert to be held towards the end of the month.

Forfarshire Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held in Dundee on April 3, Bailie Doig presiding. There were about thirty members present.

Mr. RUTHERFORD HILL said he had called on Mr. Agnew, Procurator-Fiscal, in connection with his letters to the Secretary on the sale of poisons, and explained to him the law as understood by chemists in selling poisons, and Mr. Agnew informed him there was no intention of doing anything further in the cases referred to.

THE PHARMACY BILL

was then discussed, after which Mr. J. H. Thomson moved a resolution that the meeting approve of the Bill. He was, he said, persuaded that the Bill was a praiseworthy attempt to adapt pharmacy legislation to present-day requirements. It promised protection of titles and removal of the anomaly of company-pharmacy, imposing on companies the same restrictions as on individuals. As to Clause 10, the Association had already committed itself to the desirability of dividing the examination, while the words referring to a curriculum only sought legal recognition of a thing which already existed, it being impossible nowadays to face the examinations without a course of study at some school or college.

Mr. JNO. WM. RUSSELL seconded, and

Mr. JOHN ANDERSON having spoken in support of the resolution,

Mr. KERMATH (St. Andrews) moved that as the draft Pharmacy Bill did not meet the requirements of the members of the Society, the meeting resolves not to support it. He said it was alleged in a high place that the Act of 1868 was not really a Pharmacy Act, but a measure of expediency, and yet the Council of the Society placed before the electors what they called a draft amending Bill. He objected to the Council proposing to deal with trade regulation and education at the same time. They had waited for over twenty years before any serious attempt had been made to protect

their titles, and now, when the push came, they wanted to impose more restrictions on the trade. The education craze had exceeded all bounds. They seemed to want University-trained men in preference to the shop-trained. He hoped the Association would reject the Bill until the educational proposals were dropped.

Mr. C. CUMMINGS seconded. He was much disappointed with the draft Bill. It did not embody the sort of legislation required to meet the present difficulty. Most of the chemists he met seemed to be of the same opinion.

Bailie DOIG moved:—"That this meeting approves of the draft Bill with the exception of Clause 10." He thought this clause quite uncalled for at the present time. Educational matters ought to get a rest. It was already a serious question where they were to get apprentices, as the present requirements in knowledge and money were out of proportion to the after-returns.

On a vote being taken, six voted in favour of the Bill, five for Mr. Kermath's amendment, and fourteen for Bailie Doig's amendment, which became the resolution of the meeting.

Messrs. MACKENZIE and PATERSON, two candidates for the Pharmaceutical Council, then addressed the meeting in reference to their candidature, after which

The CHAIRMAN said he hoped all members would support these two candidates, who would look closely after their interests.

Mr. KERMATH invited the members to hold the annual meeting in St. Andrews about June 12.

Festivities.

SPEED AND WELCOME.

The members of the Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association held a social evening in Kennaway's Room on Tuesday, April 2, to bid farewell to Mr. Ellis, who is leaving Aberdeen on account of ill-health, and to welcome his successor, Mr. Gilbert Simpson. There was a large attendance. After supper and the loyal toasts, the Chairman (Mr. Giles) proposed "The health of the Guests," expressing the high regard in which Mr. Ellis was held as a teacher of pharmacy, and extending a hearty welcome to Mr. Simpson. Mr. Ellis and Mr. Simpson feelingly replied. The toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain" was proposed by Mr. Charles Simpson, and replied to by Mr. Paterson. Other toasts followed, as well as songs, with "Auld Lang Syne" to finish up.

CARDIFF ASSISTANTS SUP.

A social gathering to inaugurate the establishment of the Cardiff Chemists' Assistants' Association was held at Cardiff on April 3. Mr. W. J. Sanders was in the chair, and was supported by Mr. Jabez A. Jones and Mr. J. W. Cooper (the President of the Chemists' Assistants' Association). About forty members partook of supper. After the loyal toasts Mr. A. A. P. Swadling proposed the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society," which, he said, was doing its utmost for the benefit of the profession, and he hoped eventually the Society would see its way to reduce the annual subscription to 5s. per annum, believing that if it did there would be a large accession of members.

The Chairman, in responding, said that with the desire that the subscription to the Society might be reduced he was to some extent in accord, but he hoped that its payment would always remain voluntary. He urged the young men to try for the Bell scholarships and herbarium prizes, and said that for 10s. 6d. per annum they could obtain the advantages of a most valuable pharmaceutical library, which was being added to month after month to keep it up to date.

Mr. J. W. Cooper next proposed, and Mr. J. A. Jones responded to, the toast of "The Cardiff and District Pharmaceutical Association." Mr. Jones mentioned that the Society, of which he was a Vice-President, had approached the President and Registrar of their local College with a view to the establishment of pharmacy classes for the benefit of students and apprentices. He was not in a position to say that that scheme was matured, but the Deputy-Superintendent of the College perfectly agreed that

such a thing was very desirable. He would like, he said, to see young men study botany. Some years ago, when he was a member of the Parks Committee of the Corporation, he brought this matter before his colleagues, and at their request furnished the park-keeper with a full list of plants which he suggested might be advantageously grown in the Roath Park, either in the open or under glass. Something had been done already in the way of forming botanical sections, and by taking advantage of the opportunities thus afforded they might help on the scheme until they got a complete botanical garden suitable for the students of pharmacy. A friend of the park-manager had already sent seventy or eighty plants, which had been placed in the park. Every student in Cardiff could obtain from the park-keeper a ticket giving special facilities to examine these plants, and to obtain specimens of those in bloom.

The Chairman afterwards gave the toast of "The Cardiff and District Chemists' Assistants' Association," and said Cardiff was the centre of some million and a half of people, and he hoped that when the classes were established at University College assistants from all parts of South Wales would find in Cardiff a pharmaceutical centre.

Mr. J. W. Cooper, in responding, mentioned that they had arranged for a lecture on botany by Mr. George White, and botanical rambles under the conductorship of Mr. Swadling. They had over thirty members in the Association, and he did not think it was possible for them to get more than another half-a-dozen.

Photographic Notes.

By a Pharmaceutical Camerist.

STORING SODIUM SULPHITE.

Sodium sulphite, as is well known, is partially changed to sulphate when stored for long, owing to absorption of oxygen from the air. It has been suggested to me that the bottles of sodium sulphite might be exhausted of air, and its place taken by an inert gas such as nitrogen. Will some manufacturer put the idea to the test? It would be a convenience to be able to guarantee the quality of sodium sulphite in an unopened bottle for an indefinite time.

CHEMISTS AND THE PHOTO TRADE.

It is remarkable how the chemists and druggists of Rochester, Chatham and district are stocking their fronts with all kinds of photographic apparatus. Evidently they are fully alive to the times and know thoroughly what a large business is now done by amateurs. In some establishments half the front is devoted to the exhibition of photographic apparatus and materials. Messrs. Tribe & Lamb, wholesale and retail druggists, have now one of their shop-windows completely filled with cameras, printing-frames, chemicals, &c. There is a good trade done too, for the School of Military Engineering is at Chatham, and one of its chief branches is photography and surveying.

PLATINUM-PAPER DEVELOPERS.

The following are given as cold-bath developers for platinum paper. No. 1 gives blackish-brown tones, whilst 2 and 3 tend to blue-black tints:—

—	1	2	3
Potassium oxalate neutral	300	900	135
Potassium phosphato	—	30	50
Sodium sulphite	—	4	4
Glycerin	375	—	—
Water	1000	960	960

METRIC SYSTEM.

There has been some correspondence in one of the photographic journals as to buying chemicals in metric weight quantities. I have never been asked for photographic chemicals in grammes or kilogrammes, but am prepared to supply any quantity according to the metric system. There

are not many chemists' shops in the kingdom where metric weights are not to be found, but my experience is that the public prefer to buy by avoirdupois. It is useful to remember that 1 oz. avoirdupois is equal to 28.35 grammes, and that $\frac{1}{2}$ kilogramme is a little over 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., and the nearest to the convenient pound weight. There is a handy conversion table in the *C. & D. DIARY* for 1900, and also in the new edition of the "Art of Dispensing" which should be useful for drawing out a metric price-list if need be. Sets of metric weights for retailing can now be had at a comparatively cheap rate.

A STANDARD INTENSIFIER.

A little while ago the *British Journal of Photography* suggested as an "everyday" intensifier:—

Mercuric chloride	1 oz.
Sodium chloride	1 oz.
Hydrochloric acid	5 minims
Water to	1 pint

It really does not matter within reasonable limits what the strength of this solution is, but it is convenient for the user to be able to buy an intensifier which will at different times act at about the same rate. A pharmacist will improve the above formula by the use of ammonium chloride in place of salt because its greater purity will make the solution keep better. The acid, too, had better be omitted, for the reason that it loosens the film, and is quite unnecessary. For the benefit of newer converts to the "black art" it may be added that to use the solution the well washed plate is soaked in it till the negative is white throughout. Then after well washing blacken the plate in a weak solution of ammonia or sodium sulphite.

THE GERMAN LENS-INDUSTRY

is reaching enormous dimensions. Consul Albert, Brunswick, gives the following particulars of the firm of Voigtländer & Sohn Actien-Gesellschaft, whose lenses are fairly well known in England: "The factory of Voigtländer & Sohn is situated in the city of Brunswick, and was established in 1756. It is said to be the oldest enterprise in this line of business. It employs 260 hands, and has a staff of fifteen foremen, who are scientifically and technically trained. One branch of the business is the manufacture of photographic objectives of all systems and sizes; euryscopes are made, as well as anastigmatic collinears and apochromat collinears, used by photographers and employed for process-work of all kinds. This firm also manufactures all sorts of hand and tripod telescopes up to 6 inches (diameter of objective) and Galilean and prismatic binoculars. Since 1811 there has been continual progress in this sort of work, great improvements having been made in the technique of melting glass, and the instruments having been lately brought to a high state of efficiency. The firm has recently introduced in the construction of its instruments a new alloy of aluminium and magnesium, called magnalium, which greatly reduces their weight and renders them waterproof."

DARK-ROOMS.

Messrs. D. Lester & Co., South Queensferry.

Mr. J. S. Shearman, 156 King Street, Great Yarmouth.

Stereoscopic Photography.

THE production of stereoscopic photographs—or, to use the more modern term, stereographs—is not a new application of photography, but a revival of a practice in vogue forty to fifty years ago. It is in the hope that some of the readers of the *C. & D.* who are interested in the art and practice of photography, as well as in the mere dealing in the material, may be induced to give a little attention to this very interesting and paying branch of the art, that the following notes have been written.

The great advantage of taking photographs in stereograph form is that the negatives are in duplicate—a great consideration when on a distant or foreign tour. The negatives are not only available for the production of stereographic prints and transparencies, but either of the negatives is of

suitable size for the production of lantern-transparencies by contact, and if carefully focussed either is capable of reasonable enlargement. It has been asserted that stereographs can be obtained by mounting two prints from the same negative, but that is not so, and any attempt to make stereographs in this way will only be disappointing and misleading. The two prints are dissimilar, being taken from different points of view, more or less, according to the distance separating the two lenses. This distance may be for all average work 3 inches, but it should be noted that the nearer the lenses are to the objects to be taken, the nearer the lenses should be together, and *vice-versâ*, but 3 inches distance need never be exceeded—the measurement being from the centres of the lenses. Stereographic negatives can, however, be taken with an ordinary quarter-plate camera and lens, by means of a tripod top provided with a means of sliding the camera 3 inches from side to side, two separate exposures being made, the one at 3 inches distance from the other. This necessitates the production of two separate negatives, but the method is inconvenient and of limited application.

An ingenious arrangement for using an ordinary monocular camera for stereo-work has been advertised, which appears to consist of an arrangement of prisms and mirrors for attachment to the front of the lens, and it is claimed for this apparatus that it is applicable to one's own camera and lens, and does away with the necessity for the binocular form of apparatus, but I have had no experience with it. It has recently been suggested that stereographs may be made by firmly strapping together two 5s. "Brownie" hand-cameras, a strip of wood with two notches being used to actuate each shutter simultaneously. These methods are, however only makeshifts at the best.

THE APPARATUS NECESSARY.

Any camera of the square bellows type can be adapted to stereo-work, the most convenient size being the half-plate. An adjustable division for the inside of the camera and a provision for the accommodation of the two lenses are necessary, and often supplied with first-class apparatus. The division may be made of stiff cloth, narrowly pleated bellows fashion, attached by fish-glue to two narrow strips of blackened wood, which can be made to fit into the front and back frame inside the camera. A crossed piece of flat elastic strained slightly on each side will keep this in true central position. A roller-blind shutter is almost a necessity, and should be of the behind-lens pattern, the front panel of the shutter, to which the lens flanges are screwed, being made adjustable for altering the distances between the lenses if desired.

As regards lenses, these must be accurately paired, and the diaphragms should preferably be of the wheel or rotating pattern, it being difficult to get two iris diaphragms to exactly correspond; single lenses may, of course, be used, but the most generally useful will be found to be a mid-angle rapid rectilinear—*i.e.*, of from 4 to 5 inches focal length on the half of the half-plate.

Stereoscopic hand-cameras can also be obtained in some variety, but most of them leave much to be desired. In choosing a subject, much the same may be said as in ordinary photography. It should, however, be borne in mind that subjects with hold and striking foreground will give the most marked stereoscopic effects. Interiors, architectural subjects, and statuary, also flower-studies, are also suitable subjects. The distorted or exaggerated perspective caused by the use of lenses of short focal length may be disregarded, such being completely neutralised in the stereoscope.

DEVELOPING AND PRINTING.

In developing the negatives, care should be taken to produce those of a soft printing character; if at all on the hard side, the resulting positives will have the disagreeable snowy effects so frequently seen; if more brilliant single prints should be wished than required for the stereographs, they may be obtained by the use of the gas-light developing-papers, such as "Velox" and "Dekko." The softer negatives will also be found more suitable for enlargements on bromide-paper. For the stereographic prints the most suitable paper is the gelatino-chloride paper; these should be fully printed, and toned to a rich brown—cold tones do not look well.

In trimming and mounting the prints, great care must be taken. Firstly, trim off the bottom portion exactly level; in doing this it may be found helpful to be guided by any object in the immediate foreground, but it will be more accurate to make the base of each print equidistant from a point in the middle distance or distance. In mounting, each print has to be transposed in position, so that it is advisable to mark the prints on the back before dividing. Carefully trim each print to the required shape and size, so that when mounted the centres shall be as nearly as possible $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches distant. A little latitude is permissible, but the distance between the centres must on no account exceed 3 inches. The measurement for centres should be taken from points in the distance or middle distance, not in the foreground. In mounting, a little space should separate the two prints, and a dark mount is preferable, as giving more of the effect of seeing the picture through a square opening. The original size of stereoscopic mounts is 7 inches by $3\frac{1}{16}$ inches, but as a rule ordinary cabinet-mounts can be used equally well in a hand-stereoscope, and give a little more scope in arrangement of the picture. If it is required to produce a number of prints from each negative, it will facilitate matters if the negatives themselves are trimmed to the right proportions and centres with a diamond, transposed, and printed from. Trimmed paper can then be used, and mounting will be the only remaining operation. If the negatives be on celluloid instead of glass, this can readily be effected with a pair of scissors or the trimming-knife.

STEREOGRAPHIC TRANSPARENCIES.

A more satisfactory way of producing stereographs is in the form of transparencies on glass. For these the slow type of transparency emulsion is best suited, in which an image of a warm tone can be obtained. These may be either printed by contact (when a special printing-frame is necessary, unless the negatives are cut up as described above), or reduced in the camera, the latter being the simpler and better method. The best way is to copy the negative with the binocular-camera with which the original negative was taken—using a square box large enough to admit the camera, and with an opening at the end with carrier for the negative. The negative should be placed upside down, film outwards, and the positives will then be produced in their correct position on the transparency-plate. The same care must be taken with regard to distance of centres and bases of pictures as in the case of paper prints. When in position and properly adjusted, the camera and box can be firmly fixed to a stout board. Collodio-bromide plates are the best for the purpose but are not obtainable commercially. The ordinary gelatino-bromide plate of commerce is of so excellent a quality that it requires a skilled expert to tell the difference in the finished result.

When washed and dried, the stereographic transparency should be varnished, the best varnish for the purpose being a solution of amber in chloroform. Masks are obtainable ready cut or may be cut with a sharp knife and a cutting-shape. Binders also may be cut at home, ordinary pink capping-paper answering admirably.

As regards size of transparency-plates, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches is most convenient; the orthodox size is $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, but there is no reason why this should be rigidly adhered to.

The following is a good developer to use in the production of transparencies on slow gelatin plates:—

No. 1.

Pyrogallol	...	...	...	30 gr.
Sodium sulphite	...	...	...	90 gr.
Sulphurous acid	...	...	...	$2\frac{1}{2}$ dr.
Water to	...	...	...	4 oz.

No. 2.

Strong ammonia .880	...	...	1 dr.
Ammonium bromide	...	...	100 gr.
Potassium ferrocyanide	...	...	40 gr.
Water to	...	...	4 oz.

Use equal parts of each.

The caution against excessive brilliancy applies in the case of transparencies even more than with prints; the image

should be rather dense and flat in comparison with a good lantern-slide.

STEREOSCOPES.

The best stereoscopes for viewing the finished prints and transparencies are those fitted with lenses—the cheaper forms of "American" stereoscopes are fitted with prisms in place of lenses, but they give very little if any magnification, and are of long focus.

It is possible that the practice of stereoscopic photography might be made an attraction to a chemist's business. No photographic picture is so striking as a stereograph, and a series of local views—say, one dozen—with cheap form of stereoscope included at a price of about 8s. 6d. would probably prove not only popular, but a source of advertisement and profit.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. BURROUGHS, WELLCOME & Co. have presented an aluminium medicine-chest to Surgeon-Lieut. Mowbray Taylor, commandant of the Dartford section of the Medical Staff Corps, several members of which are about to leave for service in South Africa.

THE PASTEUR-CHAMBERLAND FILTERS were the only kind supplied to the s.s. *Ophir* for the use of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York and suite during the Royal visit to the colonies. Messrs. J. Defries & Sons (Limited), 146 Houndsditch, E.C., are the sole licensees and makers of these filters.

MESSRS. HOWARDS & SONS, Stratford, near London, E., announce that all goods bearing their label, seal, or capsule are manufactured in their factories. They never attach their label, seal, or capsule to goods bought from other makers, whether English or foreign; such goods are labelled as "supplied by" only, and bear a plain capsule or seal.

"TABLOID" ERGOTIN.—Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. have produced a 1-gr. sugar-coated ergotin tabloid. The drug is the British Pharmacopœia solid extract, but of proved potency. Clinical observations go to show that the preparation in this form is far more permanent than liquid extract, while its sufficiency is unquestionable. The tabloid ergotin is put up in bottles containing 100.

"L. S. D."—This is the title of the business book which Mr. Sydney F. Goss, manager of the Crown Perfumery Company, is writing, and in respect to which we published a note in our issue of March 30. Full particulars in regard to the book were given in an advertisement in our last issue, as well as in the present number of the *C. & D.* We understand that the list of subscribers will shortly close.

"THE TRAVELLING PARTNER" is the title of a new quarterly advertisers' journal, issued by Smith's Advertising Agency, 100 Fleet Street, E.C. The idea of the publication is to assist commercial men by publishing helpful information, founded on long experience, on advertising matters. Among the specimen advertisements is one of a series referring to Page Woodcock's pills, which have been good business-bringers. Subscribers who are interested in the matter should write for a specimen copy.

Business Changes.

Notices are inserted free in this section if properly authenticated.

MR. J. D. ROBINSON, chemist and druggist, is about to open a business in High Street, Sheringham.

MR. GEORGE ALLEN, chemist and druggist, who has been carrying on business in Gorton, Manchester, has opened a new pharmacy at Croft's Bank, Urmston.

THE FARBERKE vorm. Meister, Lucius & Brüning, of Hoechst-on-Main, have transferred their business to a new company formed under the style of "Meister, Lucius & Brüning (Limited)." Mr. Frank Dixon has been appointed manager of the London office at 51 St. Mary Axe, E.C.

Personalities.

MR. JESSE WILLIAMS (of Jesse Williams & Co, chemists, Cardiff), has been appointed one of the overseers for the Parish of St. John's.

MR ALBAN E. RAGG, local manager for Messrs. Evans & Sons (Limited), Toronto (formerly with Messrs. Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool), has recently been elected a member of the Canadian Society of Authors.

MR. H. ROTHERHAM, chemist, Eckington, was placed at the head of the poll for both District Councillor and Parish Councillor for Eckington. Mr. Rotherham has been a Guardian of Chesterfield Union for sixteen years.

MR. W. J. BARNES, chemist (Mayor of Dover), and Mr. H. Peake, pharmaceutical chemist, formerly of New Bridge, have been appointed members of the deputation representing the Dover Corporation which is to present a congratulatory address to the King in person.

THE HYMN for St. George's Day, composed by Lieut. John Gibson, chemist and druggist, Hexham, and sung last year on the Sunday nearest to St. George's Day in the Abbey Church, Hexham, and the Parish Church, Berwick-on-Tweed, has been reprinted by the *Hexham Courant*.

MR. S. DE BARATHY, of Cambridge, who has been serving as a civil compounder in South Africa, was recently invalidated home with enteric fever. He has now recovered, and is returning to his post at Krugersdorp, where he is attached to the Hospital Corps troop of Baden Powell's Police.

MR. THOMAS CHRISTY, F.L.S., of T. Christy & Co., Old Swan Lane, E.C., has returned from wintering in Egypt. During his residence there Mr. Christy fully recovered his health and vigour, and has had the opportunity of making various investigations in botanical and other scientific subjects.

PRIVATE COMPOUNDER WRAGG, who was with Messrs Needham Brothers, chemists, Leeds, has just written to a friend a lively account of his experiences during the siege of Hoopstadt. He was at the stationary hospital in that town, and for nearly two months was on three-quarter rations. On the day after Christmas day they commenced with half rations, which meant a couple of biscuits a day and plenty of meat, $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. of compressed vegetables, no coffee, no sugar, and $\frac{1}{8}$ oz. of tea. The hardships of the siege were relieved on one occasion by a concert held in the Court House. Wragg sang "To Anthea" and "Jack's the Boy," whilst another item on the bill was a recitation entitled "The Wreck of the Armoured Train." This programme was enclosed with the letter, and on the back of it was a hastily-written prescription in pencil. Young Wragg stated that he had made up his mind to remain in South Africa.

New Books.

Any book named in this list can be supplied post-free to any part of the world on receipt of the published price by the Publisher of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Buchanan, G. S. *Epidemic Arsenical-poisoning attributed to Beer. Report to Local Government Board on.* 2½d. (Eyre & S.)

Ormerod, Eleanor A. *Observations of Injurious Insects and Common Farm-pests during 1900. Methods of Prevention and Remedy.* 1s. 6d. (Simpkin.)

Lake, R. *Laryngeal Phthisis or Consumption of the Throat* 36 illus. (21 coloured). 9×5½. Pp. 94. 7s. 6d. net. (Rebman.)

Platen, M. *New Curative Treatment: Handbook of Hygienic Rules of Life, Health-culture, and the Cure of Ailments without the Aid of Drugs.* 2 vols. 9×6. Pp. 1,580. 30s. (Bong.)

Sayre, Lucius E., B.S., Ph.M. *A Manual of Organic Materia Medica and Pharmacognosy.* Second edition. Revised with Histology and Microtechnique by William C. Stevens. Pp. 684. 30s. (Manchester: John K. King & Son.)

The Ideal Antiseptic.

By A HOSPITAL SURGEON.

IN these days when asepsis is the universal call of the medical profession the first essential to be considered is, Where is the antiseptic? For many years now a certain small number of antiseptics have been universally used, chief of which are corrosive sublimate, carbolic, salicylic, and boric acids, iodine solution, chloride of zinc, and the volatile oils, besides proprietary preparations. While these have undoubtedly proved themselves of the utmost value in promoting or causing asepsis, it has been recognised that besides their antiseptic qualities concomitant conditions are frequently produced which cause serious results. Taking for example the extremely common ulcerated leg, it is a well-known fact that carbolic acid, even in dilute solutions, on account of its irritating qualities, in many instances produces an eczematous condition of the surrounding parts, and were it to be continued sloughing would probably be the result. Iodoform frequently causes a red rash, and the patient complains of a general feeling of malaise for a few days preceding its appearance. Carbolic acid, besides having irritating qualities, has therefore the further disadvantage of being intensely poisonous, however efficacious it may be in promoting asepsis. Every physician and surgeon is well acquainted with the fact, too, that carbolic acid is sometimes absorbed to such an alarming extent as to cause carboloria. Again, in gynecological and midwifery work, it has occurred that pelvic inflammation has been set up by it with fatal results. Nor can it be used without the greatest possible precautions being taken in such an institution as an asylum for the insane.

Similarly, but perhaps more markedly, these remarks on carbolic acid apply to corrosive sublimate, with the additional disadvantage that it forms, with the constituents of the body insoluble albuminates, which in a greater or lesser degree afford a protective layer, thus preventing the further penetration of the antiseptic to any organisms which may lurk immediately underneath this albuminate covering. Considerable importance cannot fail to be attached to the destructive action of corrosive sublimate on instruments. In using boric acid these difficulties do not present themselves so much, but unfortunately its antiseptic powers are so weak that if it does kill the organisms themselves (which in many instances experts doubt) the disease is only left temporarily in sporoid form. Boric acid, therefore, does not meet all the requirements of the surgeon.

As to volatile oils, the fact that they are volatile is the very essence of their usefulness in circumstances where inhalations, &c., are indicated, but that volatility is what renders them of little value for general purposes.

From the above it would seem, therefore, that what is required as an ideal antiseptic might be summed up thus: While on the one hand it should possess not only the power of retarding but of preventing the growth of micro-organisms and the formation of their toxic products, on the other hand it should not cause constitutional disturbance in any marked degree; it should neither be poisonous nor irritating in character, it should not combine with the body constituents to form insoluble albuminates, nor should it be too volatile, nor have staining properties; it should neither destroy the instruments with which it may be brought into contact, nor be too expensive; it should neither be turbid in appearance nor have a soapy action on the hands, instruments, &c. Many of these qualities are present in some of the coal-tar preparations. I shall refer only to two of these. Izal is a coal-tar preparation belonging to the benzene series. It has good disinfectant and antiseptic properties, and has stood the tests to which it has been submitted in the bacteriological laboratories satisfactorily; but the fact that it is a milky emulsion lessens its value considerably. Lysol, on the other hand, although also a coal-tar preparation, is a clear fluid, and from my own experience as resident medical officer of a large institution, where I employed lysol in thousands of cases, it acted as an antiseptic in a general way most satisfactorily, but when it was used in the operating-theatre its oily character caused such a soapy feeling to one's hands that one lost command so necessary in handling instruments.

If, therefore, the milky appearance could be removed from Izal, and the slippery action taken from the properties of lysol, and if by the removal of these there should be caused no injury to their antiseptic and disinfectant qualities, I feel certain that we should approach nearer the ideal, and I submit the problem to chemists and druggists in the hope that a step in progress may be made.

Wheat-dressings.

By THOMAS S. PEBBLES.

THE most casual observer amongst us must have noticed here and there, in an otherwise perfect field of waving golden grain, a blemished stalk of black or burnt-looking colour, whose blighted and decayed appearance is only thrown into greater relief by the golden perfection of all around it. This condition, known to farmers and agriculturists by various popular names—such as "black," "bunt," or "smut"—is caused by a species of parasite, and against this parasitic generations of farmers have waged war, each according to knowledge possessed at the time, until at the present day, with quite a choice of germicides at his selection, no farmer need have his crops so destroyed. Comparatively rarely nowadays does one see the "black stalk" in a field of wheat, because in years gone by, this crop being most valuable of all, the farmer, to save himself from tremendous loss, had perforce to exert himself to fight his parasitic enemy, and use any and every means for its destruction. This practice, known as "pickling of wheat," was therefore handed down from father to son as a solemn and never-to-be-neglected duty, and became in time a kind of second nature, and is still performed faithfully, if mechanically; for the necessity no longer exists to the same extent, wheat having become hardly worth growing. Oats and barley, on the other hand, never having apparently reached the same standard of importance as wheat in the mind of the grower, have been overlooked at the time of "pickling," with the result that it is only too common to see crops of either of them disfigured with the "black stalk." As they are equally amenable to treatment, and more remunerative when treated than wheat, farmers should at once get rid of the excuse that "because his father never pickled his oats and barley neither will he," and at once set about the process.

Regarding the "pickle" itself, all varieties have been experimented with, from common salt to arsenic. Any agent is suitable which, whilst it destroys the spores of the fungus or parasite, does not destroy the vitality of the seed. I will give a list of those which experience has proved most effectual and suitable, together with directions for quantities and method of using; and, like all directions that are the result of careful consideration, these should be carried out exactly as they are given.

The quantities of pickle-salt named are all for 6 bushels of grain, and the pickle-salt is to be dissolved in $1\frac{1}{2}$ gal. of hot water. After the active ingredients have been dissolved in the water, the seed should be heaped on a floor in the shape of a hollow cone, and the solution poured into the hollow. The seed should then be turned over at least four times with a shovel, when it is ready for use. It is best treated twenty-four to thirty-six hours before sowing.

No. 1 Pickle: Sulphate of copper 1 lb. No. 2 Pickle: Sulphates of iron and copper, of each $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., with 1 oz. crude carbolic. No. 3 Pickle: Formalin 1 oz. No. 4 Pickle: Perchloride of mercury 3 dr. No. 5 Pickle: Arsenic 2 dr. and sulphate of soda $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., or common washing-soda in place of sulphate.

The two last named, although very good and powerful germicides, are not to be recommended owing to their very dangerous nature, as neither farmers nor their men are so particular regarding poisons as the Pharmacy Act is—they often read a label after the article has been used. The exceedingly careless manner in which most active poisons lie about a farm gives a chemist a novel view of the "poison-press."

Elementary Dispensing Practice.

By JOSEPH INCE.

THESE notes and comments are meant to teach the apprentice or the junior assistant the first principles of the Art of Dispensing. A beginner is strongly recommended to commence on the simplest forms of work, and to leave the dispensing difficulties which vex his elders till he has gone through and made with his own hands the whole series of prescriptions which will be presented in this series of notes. Some are taken from the British Pharmacopœia, the rest are the genuine recipes of the medical profession; they are not manufactured to illustrate some point, but they faithfully reflect daily practice within the limits here assigned. To avoid waste of material the quantities originally ordered have been reduced: thus an 8-oz. mixture is represented by 1 or 2 oz.; a 6-oz. mixture by 1½ oz. (uncia cum semisse). Pills have been reduced, and occasionally raised, to six or twelve. In West-end practice nothing is more common than for one or two pills only to be prescribed, usually silvered, of which full illustrations will be given.

Dispensing should be left alone until the would-be dispenser has trained himself to recognise the chief preparations, liquid and solid, which he sees around him, including drugs in common use; he must know his weights and measures, and how to use them practically without hesitation, for which purpose let him try his hand on a light substance such as magnesias levis, or on a heavy one such as red precipitate. Rapid measurement may be practised with distilled water or with any official infusion, while for apparatus, a pestle and mortar, a pill and palette-knife, a 2-oz. conical glass measure, a minim measure, half a dozen test-tubes, a glass rod, a Bunsen burner surmounted by a brass rose, and a pair of scales and weights, will be at first sufficient. These may be his own property; the pharmacy would surely supply the rest, and a few sundries as required.

As regards books, the British Pharmacopœia, the "Art of Dispensing," and a Latin Grammar are essential; larger standard reference manuals would be a hindrance rather than an advantage at this stage.

MISTURE, mixtures.

Latin. *Mistura*, noun fem. 1st declension; Gen. *misture*, of a mixture; Accus. sing. *misturam*, a mixture; Accus. plur. *misturas*, mixtures.

LOTIONES, lotions.

Latin. *Lotio*, noun fem. 3rd declension; Gen. *lotionis*, of a lotion; Accus. sing. *lotionem*, a lotion; Accus. plur. *lotiones*, lotions.

[All pharmaceutical preparations ending in *io* are feminine.]

HAUSTUS, draughts.

Latin. *Haustus*, noun masc. 4th declension; Gen. *haustus*, of a draught; Accus. sing. *haustum*, a draught; Accus. plur. *haustus*, draughts.

For purposes of experiment make mucilage of gum acacia in the following way:—Take 1 oz. gum acacia, in small pieces, and rapidly rinse with distilled water; tie in a small muslin bag, which suspend in a jar or glass measure, so that the bag just dips below the surface of 1½ oz. of distilled water; cover over the top. The liquid charged with soluble matter sinks to the bottom, to be constantly replaced by the lighter liquid rising to the surface. When the gum is quite dissolved, which will require about three days, stir with a glass rod. No straining is needed, all impurities being left behind in the muslin bag. The result is excellent. The B.P. method, in which straining is necessary, is also good; but try this. The larger the quantity operated on, the better.

Never make mucilage of acacia with powdered gum, nor by the slightest application of heat.

Now, by way of precaution, try the following direct combinations, and note the undesirable results:—

R.	Liquor. ammoniæ ...	...	...	3ss.
	Tr. ferri perchloridi...	...	...	3ss.
M.				

R.	Liquor. potassæ	...	...	aa 3ss.
	Tr. ferri perchloridi...	...	...
M.	[aa = ana, of each.]			

R.	Mucilag. gum. acaciæ ...	...	...	3j.
	Tr. ferri perchloridi...	...	...	℥xx.
M.				

R.	Mucilag. gum. acaciæ ...	...	...	3j.
	Liq. plumbi subacetat. fort.	...	...	3ss.
M.	[Goulard's extract.]			

See B.P., page 196: "It forms, with mucilage of gum acacia, an opaque white jelly."

These four show one of the meanings of the word "incompatible," and hence ("Art of Dispensing," page 363) iron persalts are said to be incompatible with acacia mucilage and alkalies, and lead subacetate with acacia mucilage. Yet these combinations are found occasionally in prescriptions, and this leads us to the broad dispensing-rule that when two or more ingredients in a mixture are known to react upon each other, and to produce unsightly or insoluble compounds, dilute each separately before addition with as much aqueous fluid (called the menstruum) as may be at your command.

Compound the next four according to this rule:—

R.	Tr. ferri perchloridi ...	...	...	℥x.
	Liq. ammoniæ ...	...	...	3j.
	Syrupi ...	...	...	3j.
	Aq. destillat. ad ...	...	...	3j.
	[i.e. up to 3j.]			

(a) Syrup (first), to which add tincture; mix with glass rod, adding aque ad 3iv. Mix. (b) Liq. ammoniæ 3j., with water ad (i.e., up to) 3iv. Mix, and combine the two solutions.

R.	Tr. ferri perchloridi ...	...	...	℥xij.
	Liq. potassæ ...	...	...	3j.
	Syrupi ...	...	...	3ss.
	Aq. destillat. ad ...	...	...	3j.

(a) Syrup (first); 2. Tincture; 3. Water ad 3iv. Mix. (b) Liq. potassæ with water, ad 3iv. Mix. Combine the two solutions.

R.	Tr. ferri perchloridi ...	...	...	℥vj.
	Mucilag. acaciæ ...	...	...	3ss.
	Aq. destillat. ad ...	...	...	3j.

(a) Tincture with water, ad 3ij. (b) Mucilage with water, ad 3vj. Mix and combine the two solutions.

R.	Liq. plumbi subacetat. ...	...	...	3ss.
	Mucilag. acaciæ ...	...	...	3j.
	Aq. destillat. ad ...	...	...	3j.

(a) Liq. plumbi with aq. destillat. ad 3ij. Mucilage with aq. destillat. ad 3v. Mix and combine the two solutions.

Observe that in No. 3 the mucilage is more largely diluted than the tincture, a precaution adopted by experience; also in No. 4, though liq. plumbi requires more dilution than the perchloride. In lead preparations distilled water is indispensable.

Here is a lotion frequently prescribed (though with small variations), which is best dispensed by the same method:—

R.	Liq. plumbi subacetatis ...	...	...	℥xv.
	Tr. opii ...	...	...	℥v.
	Glycerin. ...	...	...	3ij.
	Aq. destillat. ad ...	...	...	3j.

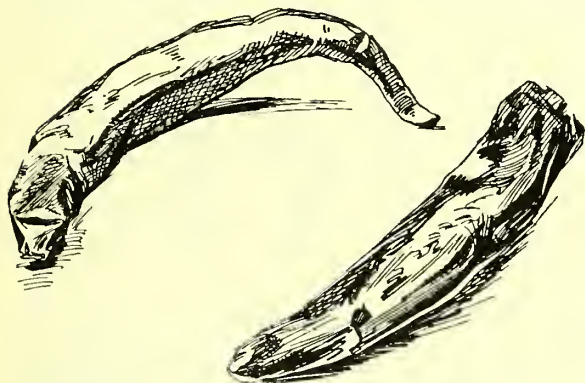
(a) Glycerin. 3j.; liq. plumbi; aq. destillat. ad 3iv. Glycerin. 3j., tr. opii; aq. destillat. ad 3iv. Mix and combine the two solutions.

It is a grand thing to have glycerin in a recipe, it can so frequently be turned to dispensing advantage. Whenever a separable tincture or one likely to separate in water or other aqueous menstruum, is present in a mixture containing also syrup or glycerin, combine it first with the syrup or glycerin, and separation will be diminished or prevented.

Produce Notes.

EGYPTIAN CAPSICUMS.

We have recently had brought under our notice a fine sample of Egyptian capsicums which have lately made their appearance on this market. The pods are of a bright uniform colour and devoid of the calyx and stalk, are very clean, and have evidently been carefully prepared. They are valued at about 65s. per cwt. We have no data bearing upon this sample, but by careful comparison with Natal



capsicums the two forms are practically indistinguishable, and it is probable that the sample in question has been grown from Natal seed. In the early part of May last year one of the Mincing Lane brokers included in his spice-catalogue a similar sample from the same country equally well prepared, and valued at the time at 83s. per cwt., fine Natal being worth 90s. In the catalogue referred to a sample of chillies from the same source was also included, but we do not remember to have seen any further parcels offered since, though we occasionally see quantities from Nyassaland. It is just possible that at no distant date we may receive both capsicums and chillies from the West Indies, as seeds of the commercial varieties were freely distributed through these islands some time since by Dr. D. Morris, late assistant director of Kew Gardens.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The British Consul-General for Bosnia and Herzegovina reports that the chemical-works at Tuzla are flourishing. They produced in 1899 about 15,000 tons of alkalies and 10,000 tons of other chemical products, and paid a dividend of 12 per cent. The works employ over 400 hands, and the paid-up capital is 93,000l. The "Holzverwerthungs-fabrik" at Teslic, with a capital of 125,000l. (3,000,000kr.) which produces from beechwood methylic alcohol, acetone, pyro-ligneous acid, acetate of lime, tar, and charcoal, and impregnates sleepers and building-timber, is not so far prospering, as it has not yet recovered from the heavy outlay incurred in the reconstruction of the machinery, involved by the failure of the process, known as the Bergmann patent, which was at first employed. The calcium-carbide works at Jaice, with a capital of 250,000l. (6,000,000kr.), also did not thrive in 1899.

ORRIS-ROOT IN NEW ZEALAND.

Mr. W. J. Palmer, Government Pomologist in New Zealand, in his eighth annual report of the New Zealand Department of Agriculture, mentions that upwards of 800 orris-root plants are now growing freely from sets received from Europe. In an appendix the correspondence of the Agent-General of New Zealand on this subject is published. The Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, suggests that *Iris pallida* should be selected for cultivation in New Zealand. On application to Barr & Sons, Covent Garden, the Agent-General was informed that *Iris pallida* could only be had in small quantities, whereas *Iris florentina* (the white Florentine iris) was plentiful, and was therefore largely used for orris-root. In reply to an inquiry as to the method of preparation the firm give the following: "The roots are dug up in August, and are then peeled, trimmed, and laid out in the sunshine

to dry. Before this is done the larger pieces of the roots are cut off and reserved for replanting. At the establishment of Count Strozzi, at Pontasieve, near Florence, which lies in the midst of the orris district, the roots are separated into different qualities, and are ultimately offered in trade, either entire or in small bits, parings, powder, or manufactured into orris-peas." Messrs. Barr had been taking some trouble to ascertain the best iris used for orris-roots, and one of their correspondents had sent them from Austria some special sets of irises, which produce an extra fine quality of orris-root, and it might be that they would prove more suitable in New Zealand than the Italian. It will be interesting to learn the results of this experiment.

The Mysterious Motion.

[He had consulted with the President and, like him, thought the motion a very improper one, and accordingly he ruled it out of order. . . . No hint as to what the motion was about was given.—C. & D., April 6, page 577.]

There are some of our Leaders, we oft have heard said,

That are loudly and wildly pretentious,
And others there be whom we somewhere have read

Are "indecent" and vilely "contentious";
But all these things pale in the light of the crime

That has brought one rash Leader a cropper,
As but for a virtuous Vice, he, in time,

Would have shocked us with something "improper."
(The virtuous Vice and the pure Presi-dent

Consulted, and fiat from Sheffield was sent
To stifle that something improper.)

Now the Trade is consumed with a baneful desire
That Secret to probe to the bottom;

And "the motion" has set the whole country afire,
So unblushingly questioners brought 'em

Their queries in hundreds our labours to swell,
Till we hired a big man with a chopper.

On the awful suggestions we scarcely dare dwell,
For we think they are quite too "improper."

(And if virtuous Vice or a pure Presi-dent
But dreamt of the things that these people have sent,

We feel sure they would brand them "Improper.")

One whispers in hope, "Does the motion propose
To reduce zealous officer's wages?"

Another suggests, "All exams, I suppose,
Are now to be paid for in stages?"

While some say 'twas schemed "to put meek Registrar
In gaudy brass buttons and topper

With a band of gold lace," or "the P. J. debar
From the use of all language improper!"

(But the virtuous Vice and the pure Presi-dent
On "raising the status" are mainly intent,

And heed not those rumours improper.)

One asks with an innocence tinged with guile—
"Did—Some one—dust—Some-body's—jacket?"

Another says—thinking to raise foolish smile—
"Has—Blankum—been out on the racket?"

"Does he want to sack B., or to pension off P.?"
"Did he dare call a customer 'shopper'?"

"Why was it so wicked?" "Whate'er could it be
That was so supremely improper?"

(Neither virtuous Vice nor a pure Presi-dent
An answer to any such questions has sent,

So these are all labelled "Improper.")

[We have communicated with Mr. Glyn-Jones in regard to the so-called improper motion ruled out of order at the last Council-meeting, and he informs us that, so far as its propriety is concerned, he is of the opinion that the subject is proper in itself and one upon which he intends to again solicit the opinion of his colleagues. Until that is done he declines to make any public statement in respect to his motion.—EDITOR.]

SIR HOWARD VINCENT is to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he is aware that, of the over-sea goods brought into the markets of the United Kingdom, only 6 per cent. are charged a toll or duty on behalf of the public revenue, and that these latter, amounting to 32,000,000l. in 1890, paid a duty of 80 per cent., one-half being raised on articles of food not producible in Great Britain and Ireland, and paying 47½ per cent. *ad-valorem* duty, and the remainder on tobacco, paying 253 per cent. *ad valorem*; and whether in the coming Budget he will endeavour to readjust this inequality, and to enlarge the area of indirect taxation, giving a preference to Empire products, and admitting breadstuffs and raw materials free.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: April 11.

BUSINESS has not yet been fully resumed on the drug and chemical markets, so that there is little of interest to record, and no changes of importance have occurred. Ergot is offering at lower prices from the Continent, and menthol is slightly easier owing to offerings of parcels on a cheaper c.i.f. basis. Essential oils of lemon and orange have an easier tendency, following a decline on the Messina market. Quinine is quiet and neglected.

Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from April 4 to 10 (both days inclusive):—Anise (@ Konigsberg), 193; argol (Cape), 25; arrowroot (St. V.), 683 brls.; arsenic (@ Oporto), 59; asafetida, 364; benzoin, (@ Penang) 72, (@ Singapore) 20; camphor (@ Kobe), 1,000 cs.; cardamoms, 73; cashew nuts, 52 cs.; castor oil, (Ital.) 166 cs., (E.I.) 448 cs., (@ Marseilles) 734 brls.; cinchona, (@ Valparaiso) 46, (@ Bombay) 42, (@ Ceylon) 76; chamomiles (@ Ghent), 6; citrate of lime, 107; coca-leaves (@ Ceylon), 14; cod-liver oil, (@ Christiania) 16 cs. 46 pkgs., (@ Aalsund) 210, (@ Drontheim) 10 cs., (@ Bergen) 216 pkgs.; drugs (@ Yokohama), 8 cs.; ergot, 7; eucalyptus oil (@ Melbourne), 20; galls, (Persian) 1,590, (Chin.) 100; gentian, 25; ginger (@ Bombay), 489 bgs. 86 cs. 194 pkgs.; gum arabic, (@ Trieste) 15 cs., (@ Hamburg) 35, (@ Alexandria) 157, (@ Bombay) 29 cs.; gum, unenumerated, (@ Persian Gulf) 401 cs. 182 bgs., (@ Bombay) 132 cs. 3 pkgs.; honey, (Chil.) 239, (Jam.) 24; lime-juice (W.I.), 20 pns.; lemon-juice (@ Messina), 20 cs.; musk (@ Colombo), 1; oils, essential (Sicil.), 118 pkgs.; olibanum (@ Bombay), 16; opium, (@ Bushire) 23, (@ Genoa) 22, (@ Constantinople) 80; orange-peel (@ Malta), 15 bgs.; orris (@ Leghorn), 92; pimento (@ Jamaica), 34; quinine, 15 cs.; saffron, 1; senna (@ Bombay), 80; soy, 3; sulphur, (@ Catania) 1,320 bgs. 56 brls. 315 cs., (@ Girgenti) 1,300 tons 30 bgs.; vanilla (@ Mauritius), 12 cs.; wax, bees', (Ital.) 22, (Morocco) 67.

Commercial Sale-rooms' Benevolent Fund.

The committee announce that since the meeting held in the Subscription-rooms on February 18, at which the Chairman (Mr. Samuel Figgis) made an earnest appeal for new annual subscribers, they have received donations amounting to 101l. 12s., that 136 new subscribers have been added to the list, and that 18 subscribers have increased the amount of their subscriptions from 26l. 5s. to 54l. 12s. per annum. Donations and subscriptions will be thankfully received by the Secretary, Mr. Chas. Barber, 24 Mark Lane.

Foreign Trade during March.

The Board of Trade returns for last month are not satisfactory reading. The imports are valued at 46,426,000l., or an increase of 1,424,000l. as compared with the corresponding month of last year, but this increase is largely due to Budget anticipations—e.g., the imports of sugar alone have increased from 552,000l. to 1,365,000l.; chemicals show an expansion of 98,700l., of which brimstone was the principal item, so far as regards quantity. As to exports, they are decidedly unfavourable as a whole. Their total value for the month was 25,021,000l., being 296,000l. smaller than for March last year. Moreover, this is due to the fact that "new ships" shows the very large addition of 2,458,000l.; chemicals declined by 84,000l.; raw materials are 684,000l. lower, owing to smaller coal shipments; while the dulness of the iron-trade is reflected in a drop of 965,000l. in metals, the loss being chiefly in iron; textiles have dropped to the extent of 754,000l., and in machinery and mill-work there is a decline of 272,000l. Analysing the exports of "chemicals," the only gratifying feature is an increase in medicines by 10,000l., the figures being as under:—

	1901	1900	1899
March	£111,942	£101,868	£94,926
January-March...	£322,398	£300,025	£277,374

There was also an increased export of copper-sulphate by 1,357 tons (40,211l.), but this is due to the spring demand, and is temporary only. Bleaching materials fell by 76,026 cwt. (18,698l.), and soda compounds (alkali) show a shrinkage of 94,318 cwt. (36,348l.). As mentioned on a previous occasion, it is now impossible under the new classification to trace the destination of the exports of "soda compounds."

Ceylon Exports Decrease.

The exports from Ceylon for the first two months of this year show a serious falling-off in some of the main products. The figures given by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce returns are:—

	1900	1901	Decrease
Cardamoms lbs.	106,348	74,656	31,692
Cinnamon lbs.	421,860	350,281	71,579
„ chips lbs.	244,718	234,963	9,755
Desiccated cocoanut lbs.	1,616,910	1,466,140	150,770
Cocoanut oil... .. cwt.	73,404	37,830	35,574
Copra... .. cwt.	85,851	37,144	48,707
Cinchona lbs.	98,371	98,196	175
Citronella oil lbs.	111,357	390,460	179,103

Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market centres other than London.]

The holidays have, of course, interfered very much with business since the date of last writing, but the general tone of the market shows little or no change from that given in recent reports.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Bleaching-powder is rather quiet, and prices, although nominally unchanged, are easier, and for good orders slightly lower figures would doubtless be accepted. Caustic soda continues to move fairly well, and is steadily maintained at late rates. Ammonia alkali, soda-crystals, and bicarbonate all in fair request and firm. The very quiet tone in both chlorates of potash and soda and prussiates still continues, and there seems little likelihood of any early improvement. Saltscale maintains a strong position at late rates, and is in brisk demand.

LINSEED AND COTTONSEED CAKES.—Business all round is fairly good, and values are therefore steady. Linseed-cakes, 95 per cent. pure, 8l. 2s. 6d. to 8l. 7s. 6d. per ton. Oil cakes, 7l. 2s. 6d. to 7l. 5s. per ton. Cotton-cakes, best makes, 4l. 17s. 6d. to 5l. 2s. 6d., and seconds 4l. 12s. 6d. to 4l. 15s.

ALUMINA-PRODUCTS keep in fairly steady and brisk request, and values show little or no variation. As figures, generally speaking, are very low, there is slight probability of any reductions taking place. Crystal alum in fair demand, with prices steady. Loose lump, 5l. to 5l. 2s. 6d. per ton; lump, in tierces 5l. 5s. to 5l. 7s. 6d.; and ground, in bags, 5l. 12s. 6d. to 5l. 15s. per ton. Sulphate of alumina, purest white and best makes, in increased demand, at 85s. to 92s. 6d. per ton, in casks, free on rails, and customary allowances for bags and loose slabs. Aluminous cake, 57s. 6d. to 62s. 6d. per ton. Alumino ferric, 57s. 6d. to 67s. 6d. per ton, according to delivery. Hydrate of alumina, purest dried pulp, in lump, 37s. 6d. to 38s. 6d. per cwt., in casks, and ground 10s. to 15s. per ton extra. Hydrate of alumina, special pulp, 12s. 6d. to 13s. 6d. per cwt. Hydrate of alumina, highest percentage Al₂O₃, and purest quality, 11l. 15s. to 12l. 5s. per ton, in large casks. Carbonate of alumina, 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt. Aluminate of soda, high strength Al₂O₃, 37s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt., according to package and quality. Chloride of alumina solution 13s. to 15s. per cwt., free on rails, in barrels.

Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, April 10.

CASTOR OIL.—Good seconds. Calcutta continues to realise 4d. to 4½d. notwithstanding arrivals per ss. *Historian*. Holders are very firm in view of the light shipments from Calcutta during March. First-pressure French is easier owing to the cessation of the strike in Marseilles, and there are sellers at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb.

GUM ACACIA.—120 serons of Ghezreh description have changed hands at 27s. 6d. per cwt., and 25s. has been refused for a further quantity; 15 serons of Amrad gum also changed hands at 27s. 6d., and 41 serons soft Soudan sorts were sold at a private figure.

CHILLIES, SIERRA LEONE.—25 bags new crop were offered from the quay at 45s. per cwt., but found no buyers. Six bags at auction were withdrawn at 47s. 6d. per cwt., but a lower price would be entertained.

QUILLATA remains firm at 13l. 10s. per ton, less having been refused.

BEESSWAX.—7l. 10s. per cwt. is still asked for grey to yellow Chilian, and the same price for Peruvian, but no actual transactions have taken place.

TURPS.—Easier, with sales at 27s. per cwt.
GINGER, AFRICAN.—The new crop on the spot is held for 28s. 6d. to 35s. per cwt., according to quality. Sales continue to be made for forward shipment at full prices.

HONEY.—During the holidays there has been little or no trade in this. Five kegs low Pile I. Chilean sold at 27s. per cwt., and 5 kegs X. at 33s. per cwt.

SCAMMONY-ROOT.—A small parcel of 3 cwt. has been sold at 35s. per cwt.

COPAIBA.—There is no business to report as importers are without stock, waiting fresh arrivals.

CARNAUBA WAX.—Grey has been in fair request, about 145 bags having changed hands at 43s. 6d. to 44s., including chalky Pernambuco and dark Maranhão; 20 bags good medium Ceara have also found buyers at 62s. 6d. per cwt.

Leghorn Drug-market.

Leghorn, April 1.

OLIVE OIL.—Edible qualities of Tuscan are rather scarce, and prices have advanced, with a prospect of still higher values should the demand increase. Best cream Lucca is quoted 65*l.*; cream, 63*l.*; extra sublime, 60*l.*; and sublime, 54*l.*—all per ton of 1,015 kilos., cost and freight terms. Common yellow bright olive oil is in strong demand and firm at 31*l.* 10s. to 35*l.* per ton, c. and f. terms.

ORRIS is entirely neglected; the demand is only for small quantities, and the market is very unsettled. A large portion of the Florentine product is still in the hands of growers, who, however, do not feel inclined to sell at present low prices, hoping to obtain better terms later on. Best picked Florentine is quoted 32s., prime sorts 28s., and good seconds 24s. per cwt. Verona, prime picked, 20s. 6d. to 21s.; mercantile ditto, 15s., c. and f.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Very quiet, at 75s. per cwt. net, f.o.b. Genoa, for white crystals (95 per cent.), and 76s. for powder.

LAUREL-LEAVES.—Pressed Florentine in bales are quoted 15s., c. and f.

JUNIPER-BERRIES are exceedingly scarce and in good demand; good prime sifted is quoted 9s. per cwt., c. and f.

BEESWAX.—The stock is nearly exhausted, and for a few small lots of guaranteed genuine 7*l.* per cwt., c. and f., is quoted.

CASTOR OIL is very firm at 39s. per cwt., c. and f., for tasteless water-white.

BORIC ACID.—Crude 83 per cent. is firmer, first-mark being quoted 15s. 6d. per cwt., c. and f.

HONEY.—Extra white Italian is very scarce at 33s. per cwt., c. and f.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, April 9.

Business is very quiet this week, owing to the Easter holidays.
AGAR-AGAR for spot delivery is firm at 395m., and forward 380m. per 100 kilos.

ALOES, CAPE, is steady, at 56m. per 100 kilos.

CAMPHOR, REFINED, is steady, but quiet; second-hand holders ask 455m. per 100 kilos.

CASCARA SAGRADA is firmer, at 45m. per 100 kilos.

CONDURANGO holds an undecided position; to-day there are again some sellers at 85m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT is quiet. Russian is quoted 425m. to 420m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPodium is a little easier, at 422½m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is unchanged, at 27½m. per kilo.

IPÊCACUANHA is little changed. Rio is quoted 28m. per kilo., while Cartagena is quiet, at 15½m. per kilo.

JAPANESE WAX is firm, at 62m. per 100 kilos.

SENEGA is unchanged, at 375m. per 100 kilos.

COD-LIVER OIL is quiet. Non-congealing oil is quoted 68m. to 65m. per barrel.

PEPPERMINT OIL is firmer. HGHI is now quoted 5.80m. per lb.

American Drug Market.

New York, April 2.

Business is rather more quiet but of satisfactory volume in general, and the tone of the market remains firm.

BEESWAX.—Stocks are considerably diminished, but in the absence of demand the market has an easy tone. Ordinary yellow is obtainable at 27c., and selected at 28c. per lb.

BUCHU-LEAVES are higher. Supplies are very small, and yellow leaves are almost out of the market. Small parcels are offered at 28c. to 30c. per lb., and prime green leaves at 30c. to 35c., according to quality and holder.

CITRIC ACID.—Domestic makers have advanced quotations to 43c. Sicilian is offered at 41c. to arrive.

CUBES are higher in sympathy with the London market. Arrivals have been large, but all have been taken up, and quotations are strong at 13c. to 14c., according to quality.

ERGOT.—Russian has declined to 54c. per lb., owing to lack of demand; less than this will buy to-day.

IODINE has declined 45c. per lb., and is now quoted at \$2.70.

JALAP has sold heavily at 12½c., and the market is firmer.

OIL, PEPPERMINT, is in good demand, and while prices are unchanged generally some dealers ask an advance of 5c.

OPIMUM has been offering at \$3.20 with no buyers. Demand is slow, but the market is a trifle firmer, and in some quarters \$3.25 is an inside figure.

SENEGA is neglected. Dealers are willing to sell at 35c. per lb.

VALERIAN.—Belgian is easier at 6c., and German root is firm at 15c. per lb.

Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, April 9:—Rain is badly wanted in the interior, in consequence of which the Smyrna market has advanced 4*l.* per lb.

HAMBURG, April 11, 1.46 P.M.:—Hotchkiss oil of peppermint is selling here at 585m. per kilo. German refined camphor in second hands is 455m. per 100 kilos.

BERGEN, April 11, 11.25 A.M.:—The total catch of cod-fish up to date is 23,801,000, as against 19,899,000 at the corresponding period last year. This is estimated to yield 23,290 barrels of crude oil, as against 19,772 barrels last year. The tone of the market is weak, and the price is falling, the closing price for Lofoten non-freezing oil being 62s. per barrel f.o.b. Bergen.

NEW YORK, April 11, 4 P.M.:—Tame market this week. Opium firmer at \$3.22 per lb.; quinine quiet at 32c. to 34c.; golden-seal root easy at 51c. per lb. Peppermint oil, at \$1.15, is stronger, and coca-leaves are also hardening—to-day's price, 24s. for Truxillo. Cubes firmer at 12c., and Honduras sarsaparilla is easier at 6½c.

London Markets.

ARSENIC.—The lowest price for best English powdered is 18*l.* to 18*l.* 10s. per ton in 5-ton lots. The quotation given last week was in error.

ASAFETIDA.—The s.s. *Afghanistan* has arrived with 320 cases from Bunder Abbas and 44 cases from Lingah, which will probably come up at the next drug-sales (April 25).

BISMUTH.—Subnitrate in cones is quoted 6s. per lb.

CARDAMOMS.—A report from Rangala, Ceylon, dated March 13, states that cardamoms are beginning to come in, and that there is only a middling crop set on the stools.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—On the spot 27s. 6d. to 28s. 6d. per cwt. is quoted, according to holder, but for a shipment close at hand there is a seller at 26s. In Liverpool a parcel is offered at 26s. 6d.

CHAMOMILES are slow of sale at from 72s. 6d. for yellow up to 90s. for fine.

CLOVES.—Zanzibar are slow but steady at 4¾*l.* per lb. nominally for June-August delivery.

COCOA-BUTTER.—The whole quantity offered in auction at Amsterdam on Tuesday sold as follows:—93 tons Van Houten's, at 68½c. to 72¼c. (average price 71.20c.); 5 tons Helms, at 71c. to 71½c.; and 8 tons de Jong, at 71c. to 71½c.

COLCHICUM-SEED.—The stock is now well concentrated both here and in America, and further purchases have been made. So far as we can learn there is now only one holder on this market, and he mentions 2s. 6d. per lb., without engagement, as the quotation. We hear of business on the New York market at 60c., while higher quotations are given in the trade papers there.

COPPER SULPHATE.—Very quiet, at from 22*l.* 15s. to 23*l.* per ton on the spot for leading brands.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—A few cases of fine are to be had in first hands at 11*l.*

ERGOT is easier. A sale of a ton-lot of Russian is reported at 1s. 10¾*l.* per lb., c.i.f. On the spot fairly sound Russian is quoted 2s. 3d., and Spanish 2s. 5d.

GAMBOGE.—Still very scarce. For good native picked Siam pipe (Pile I) as much as 12*l.* is wanted, but buyer's ideas of value are considerably less.

GINGER.—The total shipments to all countries from Jamaica from January 1 to March 2 have been as follows:—

	1901	1900	1899
Cwt. ...	3,755	3,438	4,310

Comparing the month ending March 3, 1900, with that ending March 2, 1901, the exports were as follows:—

To	1901 Cwt.	1900 Cwt.
U.K. ...	620	1,436
U.S.A. ...	1,689	1,109
Canada ...	110	63
Other countries ...	1	nil

In estimating the crop from receipts in London it is as well to compare the figures with those of 1899, not 1900, as the weather conditions of 1899 and 1901 are similar. There have been no public sales this week. Jamaica remains very firm at last week's advance. Cochin is also firm, and 37s. to 38s. per cwt. has been paid for washed rough, and for Calicut brown rough. There has also been a fair demand for cut qualities, medium selling at 50s. and small at 46s. 6d.

GOLDEN SEAL is weak at the moment, but as the supply of autumn-dug root is not large, and no more of this grade obtainable until next auction, prices may harden meanwhile, especially as the spring crop is well known to be deficient in hydrastine. There are spot sellers at 2s. 4d. per lb.

JALAP.—There has been a little business this week at from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.

LEMON-JUICE (Conc.) and CITRATE OF LIME.—A report from Messina dated April 1 states that the total output for the season now closed amounts to about two-thirds of an average crop, and of the 8,000 to 9,000 pipes manufactured about two-thirds are citrate of lime and one-third juice. Owing to little demand prices have declined to 18l. 12s. per pipe, f.o.b. A private advice from Messina dated April 6 quotes 18l. 15s. per pipe, c.i.f. London, also stating that buyers are holding off, some on account of being stocked, while others are awaiting a farther fall.

MANNA.—New crop is quoted 2s. 9d. per lb. net, f.o.b., Palermo, broken, 11½d., and sorts, 9½d.

MENTHOL is easier with spot sellers at 13s. 3d. to 13s. 6d. per lb., according to brand: April-May shipment is quoted 11s. 9d. to 12s., c.i.f.

OIL, ANISE, STAR.—Practically a dead letter at 5s. 6d. per lb., spot, or 5s. 3d., c.i.f.

OIL, CASTOR.—The market has a steadier tone, and there has been a good business done for spot during the last few days. Hull make for prompt delivery is quoted 32l. 10s. per ton, and seconds 31l. 10s.; May to August delivery (in equal monthly quantities), 29l. and 28l. respectively, ex wharf London. Belgian firsts is quoted 32l. spot ex warehouse, and 27l. 10s. for April-December delivery, f.o.b., Antwerp.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on April 6 that the fishing in the Lofoten district is now closing at the principal stations. The production of steam-refined oil this season has been comparatively great, and buyers keep quiet and attentive to the market. To-day's quotation is nominally 66s. per barrel, f.o.b. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 2,752½ barrels, against 1,841 barrels at the corresponding period last year. Business on the London market is very quiet, agents quoting 63s. to 65s. per barrel, c.i.f.

OIL, OLIVE.—A Messina report dated April 1 states that the requirements of home consumption alone is sufficient to maintain values, and prices are very firm notwithstanding the absence of an export demand. The London market is firm, especially for finest grades, at from 4s. to 5s. 6d. per gallon.

OIL, ORANGE.—Business has been done in pure at 6s. 3d. c.i.f. for sweet.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—Further business has been done in American H.G.H. at 6s. spot, and importers now ask 6s. 3d. To import from New York it is calculated that the cost would be equivalent to 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. spot. Best Wayne County, oil in tins is quoted 5s. net.

OIL, LEMON, is easier in sympathy with the Messina

market where 3s. 9d. to 4s. per lb. c.i.f. is quoted; spot sales have been made at 4s. for genuine.

ORRIS.—Importers quote 30s. to 35s. per cwt., c.i.f., for Florentine—the latter figure for picked.

PEPPER.—Quiet at 6d. per lb. on the spot for black Singapore, and at 6½d. to 6¾d. for shipment according to position. Singapore white is quoted 8½d. on the spot, and Penang 8½d. per lb.

PODOPHYLLUM ROOT is quoted 22s. 6d. per cwt. spot by an importer, being easier.

POTASH CYANIDE.—The resumption of work in the mines in South Africa is expected to bring an improvement in the demand shortly. Meanwhile, however, there are sellers in contract quantities at 10½d. per lb.

QUININE.—There is no business to report in the second-hand market this week, and prices are nominal at 1s. 3½d. per oz. for spot, and 1s. 4d. for August delivery. At the Java quinine-auctions on April 3, the result of which was reported in last week's issue, 3,600 kilos. were offered, of which 3,100 kilos. were sold. The next auction to be held there will be on May 15.

SAFFRON is unchanged at 28s. 6d. per lb. net for Valencia of B.P. quality.

SARSAPARILLA.—A little Lima Jamaica has changed hands at 1s. 2d. per lb. for good.

SEEDS.—There is little to note, business having been very small during the past week. Morocco *Cumin* is still very scarce, but a parcel of Spanish has been placed on the market. It is of good quality, but rather stalky; 36s. per cwt. is the price asked. *Coriander* is steady at 12s. to 13s. per cwt., according to quality. *Canary* is unusually quiet, but values are unchanged. Morocco *Linseed* is selling at 55s. per quarter.

SHELLAC has been inactive. Small sales of second orange T N have been made on the spot at 58s. 6d. per cwt.

SUGAR OF MILK.—Competition for business is still very keen, and prices are lower. Good firsts Italian powder is quoted 45s. per cwt. in ton lots.

SULPHUR.—A Messina report dated April 1 states that March was an uneventful month. Seconds scarcely moved, and if anything prices closed 6d. lower, while thirds were 3d. to 6d. higher. The export trade was active, shipments being mostly in fulfilment of previous contracts. Small orders were placed with "outsiders," and it was not necessary to purchase from the syndicate, whose prices are unaltered, at about 1s. to 1s. 6d. above market rates. The prices of refined and manufactured sulphur are slightly lower. Raw brimstone at Catania has advanced, and some of the smaller factories temporarily ceased working. As the stock at Catania is 20,000 tons short against last year an advance in the values of refined brimstone is possible. Best unmixed seconds are quoted 78s., best thirds 69s. 9d., refined block sulphur (100 per cent.) 82s. 6d. per ton of 13 Sicilian cantars, f.o.b. Refined oil, in casks, 90s.; sublimed flowers 98s., superior 95s. 6d., and current 94s. per ton of 20 cwt., f.o.b.

THYMOL.—A retail-business has been done in second-hands at 14s. 6d. per lb. Buyers, however, are holding off, expecting lower prices in May, when the new crop of Ajowan seed is due.

VANILLA is dearer all round. For good Tahiti beans 8s. 6d. per lb. has been paid.

A consular report on the trade of German East Africa for 1900 states that there are three vanilla-plantations near Bagamayo. Two, Kitopeni and Shambesi, belong to a private company, the third to the Roman Catholic Mission. In the two former are 30,000 vines, each of which bears on an average 20 pods annually. During the drought of 1898 half the vines died. To prevent a recurrence of such a catastrophe the plantations are now irrigated. The price obtained for 1 lb. of vanilla (from 30 to 50 pods) ranges from 1l. to 3l.

VERATRINE.—A report from Berlin dated March 30 states that the market has remained unchanged for a long time at 140m. per kilo., and that the speculation which has taken place in cevadilla-seed has not influenced the article. A fall in value is now anticipated, as repeated supplies of the new seed have come to hand.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

An Interruption in Council.

SIR,—In your report of the discussion in the Pharmaceutical Council on the Shops (Early-closing) Bill you attribute to me a jocular interruption of Mr. Southall's remarks. Please allow me to state that the interruption referred to was not made by

Yours faithfully,

Barrymore, North Finchley, April 8. A. C. WOOTTON.

Council Candidates.

SIR,—The truly "Giffordian" letter in your last issue mystifies many besides myself as much as ever as to what Mr. Gifford does mean. "Gifford is a man terribly in earnest, but what he wants and how he proposes to get it only himself knows," is a saying which is often heard outside Blackburn. His last letter is only a partial solution of this demand for information. Now, in the character of a candidate for Council honours, we are entitled to know exactly the position in which he stands. Would he, therefore, favour the electorate with definite, intelligible answers to the following queries in words such as those who up to now have not understood him may at once grasp their meaning:—

1. Does Mr. Gifford acknowledge that companies are at present outside the operation of the Pharmacy Acts of 1852 and 1868?

2. Is he content with the present state of affairs?

3. If not content would he amend the 1868 Act to bring companies within its jurisdiction, or would he ask his great authority Sir William Coddington to bring in an amending Act to the 1900 Companies Bill and reintroduce the deleted Clause 3 and include chemists in that clause?

4. When a person earns in the examination-room the title of chemist and druggist does that title at present, carry with it legally the monopoly of any practice except the sale of scheduled poisons?

5. What are Mr. Gifford's views as to what constitute professional duties which should be secured with the title as distinguished from trading operations, which he says the Pharmaceutical Society have no right to meddle with in his case?

6. Would Mr. Gifford support a policy of prohibiting the advertisement by a person qualified by examination of his or her professional qualification, and declare it "infamous conduct in a professional sense"?

7. Why does Mr. Gifford say that the Council are giving away the principle of the 1868 Act when they propose to absolutely restrict all the professional work and the title to the qualified man, and make it utterly impossible for anyone to assume the title unless qualified?

8. Does the N.E. Lancs Association, through Mr. Gifford, their nominee, still persist in condemning the draft Bill *in toto*? If not, what parts are still obnoxious, and which of the clauses are acceptable?

A reply to these queries would be of much value, as Mr. Gifford cannot hope to secure votes on a policy of uncompromising opposition to the suggested legislation unless the arguments for that opposition are intelligible to those electors to whom he appeals for support at the election.

Yours, &c.,

ANTI-FLAPDOODLE. (124/55.)

Pharmacy Bill.

SIR,—I have a serious fault to find with the Pharmacy Bill. It has not been framed upon sufficiently drastic lines. It recognises one of the cardinal principles which we all so tenaciously hold—*i.e.*, that nobody but a duly qualified druggist should control in any direction, or assist in so controlling, the operations of a shop in which poisons are retailed. But I would go further, and declare that nobody

but a duly qualified druggist should be permitted to own, or, as a shareholder in a body corporate, to become part owner of the business of a chemist and druggist. The Bill would tolerate, as I read it, a fair sprinkling of lay shareholders in a company incorporated to carry on the practice of pharmacy, provided its board of direction be manned by duly qualified chemists. But this we must not have. My notion is that we should absolutely abolish company-pharmacy. We must first get Parliament to give all qualified chemists the status of professional men. It is ours by moral right. Let us then assert that right, and do not let us be afraid, while we are asserting it, to aim high. This status is an absolutely essential prelude to the extinction of company-pharmacy. As the mere expression of one's views will be of little practical use unless active measures be taken, I would suggest that a strong committee should be formed, altogether outside of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, and to that committee I would delegate the task of licking some such ideas as I have given to your readers into the shape of a Bill, which, being framed upon the broader lines I have indicated, would necessarily supersede the one already prepared by the Pharmaceutical Society.

AMICUS HUMANI GENERIS. (124/71.)

Birkenhead, April 6.

SIR,—The question is often debated in connection with the opening section of Clause 2 whether it does not permit any unqualified person to commence business provided he employ a qualified chemist to conduct it. Those who say "No" point out that Section 1 of the 1868 Act is not repealed, and that this is a barrier to any unqualified person doing this. Is that so, and is it so plain as to be indisputable? I am sceptical on both points, especially the latter. The draft Bill professedly is meant to alter and amend the Acts of 1852 and 1868. There being no schedule attached to the Bill showing in what respects they are intended to be altered one is somewhat at a loss to know whether Clause 11 covers the whole of the amendments contemplated or not. In former Acts of the Society alterations and amendments have been left to be inferred from the later legislation, and I believe it has been decided that the more recently passed enactments contain the law on the points legislated on. That being so, it might very forcibly be argued that the new Clause 1 supersedes Section 1 of the 1863 Act. This is a matter too vital to be left in doubt. The last section of the clause seems a most extraordinary one—*viz.*,

It shall be unlawful for any person or for any company, firm, co-partnership, or body of persons to sell or to negotiate or participate in the sale of any poison at or upon any place other than an open shop registered upon the said register of shops.

Hitherto the newly born chemist and druggist could deal with and handle poisons anywhere in Great Britain and at any time. Should the Bill pass in its present shape this privilege would be seriously curtailed.

The section has been interpolated into the original draft, as we are told, to meet the decision in White's case, the law in regard to which cannot be said to have been authoritatively settled. The effect of the new provision would be to make it illegal for a chemist to send for anything covered by the poison schedules to a wholesale house, and ask them to address it to a customer direct. Again, if a chemist in taking an airing passes a customer's farm and in conversation with him is asked to send some Epsom salts, nitre, and any other ordinary farm-medicines, and concludes the list with an order for 8 oz. laudanum, he must refuse to take down the latter portion of the order if he wishes to respect the law, and request his customer to accompany him to his place of business or to the door of the first registered shop before he can take that part of the order. This seems too absurd. The clause makes it unlawful to negotiate the sale of poisons anywhere except in a registered shop, and the converse of that proposition is that all may lawfully do it if standing within the charmed precincts of a registered shop. What seems to me to meet this case, and yet not interfere with the ordinary and legitimate methods of doing business, is to make the section read—

It shall be unlawful for any person or for any company, firm, co-partnership, or body of persons to sell or negotiate for the sale, or derive profit, either by commission or otherwise, from the sale

by retail of any poison except such person, company, firm, co-partnership, or body of persons are entitled to keep open shop for the retailing, dispensing, or compounding of poisons.

When White's case went against the Council one is surprised that it did not institute proceedings against the Boundary Chemical Company, the sale being to a consumer, not to one in the retail trade.

Aberdeen, April 6.

JAMES PATERSON.

Early Closing.

SIR,—It is improbable that the House of Commons will pass any Early-closing Bill for shops, as it is chary of giving men power to interfere with each other's business. Lord Avebury seeks to put the solution of the difficulty of regulating closing on shopkeepers themselves, not, I presume, because he is enamoured of the local-option principle, but because he sees that to be the only way out of the difficulty. But Lord Avebury is, I think, acting under a delusion. It will be a difficult matter for tradesmen to procure a two-thirds' majority for the closing of shops at any earlier hour than they close now. Those who are delighted with the prospect of being able to apply compulsory powers to their fellow-tradesmen may rest their souls in patience. Their time is not yet.

It is dangerous for Parliament to alter the hour of closing, and it is only lessening the danger by giving the shopkeepers the power to do it, for there are no two places of business exactly alike. Some do a wholesale business, and for these to close before 6 P.M. is to seriously injure the business. What right have I to get another to help me to close this business or to inflict a penalty for breaking the law?

As to Clause 9, which I would erase, I read: "This section shall not be deemed to authorise the shop . . . to be open after the said hour, save," when it is open, "for the purpose aforesaid." I do not know how such nonsense can be put into a Bill. If a customer walk in for drugs the shop is open, but if he walk in for something else that is not a drug the shop is closed!

Mr. Taylor, at the Council-meeting, speaking in favour of the Bill, said it was a question of bread-and-butter. Yes, so it is; and he and others have no right to interfere with the earning of bread-and-butter, nor to have the power to inflict penalties on those who are earning it. He and Messrs. Wootton and Glyn-Jones speak of the coercion of the few as though it were the same kind of coercion; but the few do not compel the many to keep their shops open, and do not inflict, nor seek to inflict, penalties on them if they close. The coercion of the few is only moral. Local optionists want theirs to be legal, and with penalties, which is a material difference. For fourteen years Sir John Lubbock tried for coercion, and he never got it, and Lord Avebury will be as successful if he should try so long.

Yours truly,
T. HULME.

Bury, Lancs, April 8.

About Almond Oil.

SIR,—It has now become customary amongst wholesale houses to guarantee that every article sold by them shall conform to the characters and tests of the B.P., unless where otherwise stated on the label. The wording, therefore, of the label becomes an object of immediate interest to the pharmacist lest it should contain any statement which might place the preparation outside the pale of the guarantee. My objection, then, to the labelling which Mr. Umney so courageously owns to is that at first sight it might deceive the pharmacist into the opinion that he was handling a veritable almond oil, if he did not chance to read the full particulars, which might be regarded as a contemptuously superfluous afterthought of the vendors. Or, again, as it is almost impossible to get assistants or apprentices to look at labels, let alone read them, an assistant may sell oil out of a bottle labelled after Mr. Umney's descriptive method to the Food and Drugs inspector, under the impression that he was retailing a real almond oil. In such a case Mr. Umney's firm would probably refuse to refund the retailer's costs at court.

Again, the less reputable wholesalers, emboldened by the example of an eminent firm, fortified by the explanation of Mr. Umney, and strengthened by the apparent support of so

great an authority as Mr. Holmes, will improve on the example, and supply pharmacists with products under some such labels as these:—

OLEUM AMYGDALAE.	OLEUM EUCALYPTI.
Expressed from the Amygdalus	Distilled from the Eucalyptus
Communis and/or Amygdalus	Amygdalina.
Persica.	

Mr. Umney will be the first to see that such a practice is likely to lead to regrettable abuses.

Yours truly,

Dublin, April 4.

J. C. MCWALTER.

Imperial Pharmaceutical Reciprocity.

SIR,—“It would be a pity to attempt to carry out this scheme [of Imperial reciprocity of pharmaceutical certificates] until every section of the Empire is ready to adopt it.” So said “Xrayser” in your journal of December 29. I may be very obtuse (my modesty forbids me to give my real opinion), but I certainly cannot see any special logic or reason in this. I have never known reforms conducted on this principle—that the reform should be advocated and talked about and discussed until everybody is ready to accept it, and that only then should action be taken. Thinkers have generally found that the way to spread their opinions is to announce them and let those who have ears to hear adopt and carry them out. Even in starting a pharmacy I never heard of the suggestion that the pharmacist should canvass the neighbourhood until he found that all possible customers were ready to open accounts with him or become purchasers before he took down his shutters. Surely the rational plan is to establish a reasonable basis for reciprocity, and then let any of the dependencies of the British Empire adopt it when they find themselves in a position to do so, either from the point of view of a change of conviction or the achievement of a certain standard of examination. The real fact, I think, is that the idea is so novel to British thinkers that they have not taken its bearing, are not familiar with its details, and therefore look at it rather more in a mass than is necessary or desirable.

MELBOURNE. (99/63.)

Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in “The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary,” 1900, pages 212-226, and pages 259-262.

108/44. *Trustee*.—Trust-money must be invested in Government securities and certain other securities. Take your local solicitor's advice on the matter.

113/40. *Prop.*—The presence of poisons in the stock of a drug-store owned by an unqualified person would be good evidence that the premises are an open shop for the sale of poisons, but there would be no infringement of the Pharmacy Act unless the retailing, dispensing, or compounding of poisons was distinctly proved.

113/61. *Co.*—For particulars as to the use of armorial bearings in trade see THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, page 264. The use of the Royal Arms illegitimately is sometimes objected to by the Association of Royal Warrant-holders, but they never take action in respect to any cases where the arms are so used as not to delude the public into the belief that the user is a tradesman to the sovereign.

82/21. *Sundries*.—From what you say it seems that you accepted delivery of the sponge. Why did you put your name and address in the traveller's note-book?

117/44. *J. A. O.*—A month's notice is the recognised custom of the retail drug-trade.

117/51. *F. G.*—No one whosoever can make or sell dutiable medicines without a licence.

107/33. *P. H.*—If you have our DIARY, why not refer to the Poisons Schedule, page 214? You will see that canabis indica does not occur in it.

104/21. *T. B. E.*—See reply to “P. H.” Cantharides hair-wash is not a poison if it does not vesicate the skin.

115/25. *F. H. P.*—The licence of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland is not a legal qualification in Great Britain. If an unqualified person kept open shop for the sale of poison in London he would be prosecuted by the Pharmaceutical Society. The employment of a qualified assistant by the owner would make no difference.

125/4. *Herbert.*—The concession in regard to the use of stills by traders duty free is granted to tar-distillers, amongst others, but not to chemists and druggists in respect to distilling water. We shall make the paragraph in DIARY, page 226, clear on this point.

124/66. *Lawful* puts the following question:—Would an unqualified man, proprietor of a drug-store, be liable to prosecution under the Pharmacy Act if a firm, mentioning him as their agent in an advertisement, described him as a chemist? [The reply is, Not if the unqualified man can show that he is not a party to the advertising. Distribution of the handbills bearing such advertisement is sufficient evidence of the unqualified person's connivance, and he may easily avoid it by returning the handbills to the firm who erroneously describe him.]

124/73. *Uninformed.*—The right to sell proprietary medicines in South Africa included in the ordinary shop-licence, which all shopkeepers require. The latest Pharmacy Act of Cape Colony contains special provisions as to poisonous patent medicines which have not yet been enforced. Substantially the provisions will place the sale of such medicines in the hands of chemists and druggists. Articles priced 1s. 1½d. sell in South Africa at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d. (or even more), according to where they are sold.

108/26. *Puzzled.*—It is the "name of the article" that has to be put on the poison-label. The Act does not say the "name of the poison," so that if it is a cough-mixture that you sell, and it contains chloroform, acetate of morphine, and tartar emetic, you do not require to put the names of these ingredients on the label. If you make an entry in the prescription-book of the ingredients of the mixture and the name of the person to whom it is sold or delivered, no poison-label need be used. Tartar emetic (not morphine preparations) is in the first part of the schedule, and it has been held that the sale of an article containing a scheduled poison is to be regarded as a sale of the poison; consequently, if strictly followed, the law requires the sale of a preparation of tartar emetic to be signed for, but that was not the intention of the law. The schedule is sadly in need of revision.

123/32. *A. M. T.*—You are wrong. "A B.C. liniment" is the name of the article. See reply to "Puzzled."

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

87/15. *Rad. Rhei.*—Our rule forbids us to examine and report on proprietary articles.

81/24. *Ben.*—The Gravy-salt is prepared after the recipe given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 274.

98/65. *T. S.*—The veterinary healing-ointment is zinc ointment, with a small proportion of white-precipitate ointment.

87/42. *G. M. S.*—The quantity of splint-preparation you send is too small for analytical purposes.

92/14. *Mandrake.*—We have not examined your sample of "hair-grower," as we believe it to be a proprietary article.

94/64. *Mona.*—The Colic-draught for horses turns out to be a solution of aloes in a solution of common salt. It is probably made by boiling aloes 3ss. in 3v. of salt solution (1 in 40) and allowing to stand till clear. A 4-oz. draught would be a suitable dose.

96/68. *J. B. B.*—Wheat-dressing is best applied by sprinkling it on the moistened wheat, the mixing being done on the barn floor. (2) Ten gr. of a mixed-vegetable powder is too small a quantity for analysis.

93/9. *Veto.*—The Collar-polish is, as you suggest, a mixture of equal parts of French chalk and curd-soap. It appears to have been prepared by compression.

73/74. *R. L.*—Dog-mixture.—This consists of balsam of sulphur diluted with twice its bulk of olive oil.

71/59. *N. D.*—The Milk-preserver is the usual mixture of borax and boracic acid. The proportions of the two ingredients are about equal.

92/40. *Carbo Ligni.*—We require particulars of the uses and source of samples submitted to us before we undertake analyses.

87/66. *J. B.*—The term "Evil" applied to sheep is a general term, and is used in the same way as murrain or distemper. In one district it implies louping ill, and in another anthrax, or again something quite different from either. You would learn what was intended if you ascertained the symptoms, course, duration, and usual termination of the malady. We might then be able to help you.

83/63. *Bonumvallum.*—(1) The German Pharmacopœia and French Codex can be obtained from foreign booksellers such as A. Ziegler, 30 Lime Street, E.C., or Dulau & Co., 37 Soho Square, W. (2) The following foreign journals may suit you:—*Pharmaceutische Zeitung*, 3 Moabitouplatz, Berlin; *Chemiker-Zeitung*, Cöthen; *Journal de Pharmacie et de Chimie*, 8 Place de l'Odéon, Paris; *Annales de Chimie Analytique*, 45 Rue Turenne, Paris. (3) For the method of Estimating the Amount of Camphor in a Spirituous Solution see Mr. Liversege's paper in the *C. & D.*, January 28, 1899, page 154, and May 26, 1900, page 890.

75/45. *D. W. McV.*—Ringworm-remedy.—It is difficult to believe that the bichromate-application for ringworm in cattle should cause all the trouble you mention. Perhaps the lotion was rubbed into an already abraded skin, and so became absorbed. Any sulphur ointment, especially if mixed with oil of tar in the proportion of 1 of the latter to 20 of the former, proves effectual in cattle-ringworm. The ointment given in "Veterinary Counter-practice" is a capital remedy.

107/36. *Velo.*—(1) One-solution Ortol Developer (concentrated):—

Ortol	75 gr.
Potassium metasilphite	40 gr.
Sodium carbonate	1½ oz.
Potassium bromide	5 gr.
Water to	20 oz.

Dissolve.

For use 1 oz. is diluted to 3 oz. or 4 oz. with water. (2) Either of the two "complexion-beautifiers" given on page 4 of "Pharmaceutical Formulas" would suit as a milky sunburn-lotion. The second recipe is the better.

105/23. *Climax.*—There is no way of making a clear mixture of oil of stavesacre and heavy paraffin oil.

101/16. *W. H.*—Beta-naphthol is used in a 5-per-cent. alcoholic solution for fumigating bees.

108/33. *J. R.*—Liq. Violæ Conc. pro Syrupis (1 to 15).—This is a liquid extract of violet-flowers or blue pansies, made by percolating with a menstruum of glycerin (2) and proof spirit (18). The latter portions of the percolate are reduced in bulk by evaporation.

79/15. *Corron.*—Cripps's "Galenic Pharmacy" is published by Churchill at 8s. 6d. The last edition came out in 1893. Mr. Lucas's "Practical Pharmacy," by the same publishers (12s. 6d.), is an excellent work on manufacturing galenicals.

82/47. *J. G. I.*—Assistants in Australia.—The British Minor is recognised in all the Australian colonies except New South Wales. See a letter on the subject in the *C. & D.*, September 15, 1900, page 483.

97/14. *Nadian*.—(1) Sweet Castor Oil is prepared by the addition of saccharin in the proportion of 1 gr. to 4 oz. of castor oil. As saccharin is with difficulty soluble in castor oil, it is preferable to dissolve it in a small quantity of absolute alcohol before adding to the oil. (2) Aromatic Castor Oil—

Ol. cinnamomi	...	...	...	mijj.
Ol. caryophylli	...	...	...	mj.
Saccharini	...	...	...	gr. ij.
Alcohol. absol.	...	...	...	3ij.
Ol. ricini	...	...	...	3viiij.

M.

97/53. *Glyco*.—Liquid Soap.—See *C. & D.*, December 29, page 1,050.

83/37. *Radix*.—If you have any better suggestion for a (soluble) concentrated disinfecting-powder than borax with pine and eucalyptus oils, please make it.

64/68. *J. B.*—We have the matter in hand, but our experiments are incomplete.

92/41. *G. & D. S.*—The chapter on Depilatories in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" answers your questions more fully than we can find space for in this column.

76/3. *Nautilus*.—(1) Face-powder^{1/2} (perfumed with violets):—

French chalk	...	...	...	3viiij.
Zinc oxide	...	...	...	3vij.
Powdered orris	...	...	...	3ij.
Ionone	...	...	...	mxx.

Mix.

(2) Coniferous Bath-salt—

Borax	...	...	...	3iv.
Sodium carbonate	...	...	...	3iv.
Orris-root	...	...	...	3ss.
Oil of pine	...	...	...	3j.

A teaspoonful to be mixed in the water for a bath.

95/73. *A. P.*—The translation of the prescription for Hair-treatment given in the *C. & D.*, January 26, page 156, is as follows:—Every night during six weeks massage the top of the head and the temples with a gloved hand and a piece of the following pomade the size of a nut:—

Huile de cade	...	...	...	10 grammes
Lanoline (anhydrous)	...	...	...	20 grammes
Calomel	...	...	...	0.5 gramme
Essential oil of almonds	...	...	...	0.25 gramme

On the following morning wash the head with warm water and Mollard's huile-de-cade soap, afterwards giving a friction of five minutes' duration with a tooth-brush of medium softness, well soaked in a tablespoonful of the following liquid (inflammable):—

Alcohol (96 per cent.)	...	...	...	200 grammes
Spirit of camphor	...	...	...	30 grammes
Coal-tar saponin (liq. carbonis deterg.)	...	...	...	30 grammes
Distilled water	...	...	...	30 grammes
Potassium nitrate	...	...	...	1.5 gramme
Pilocarpine nitrate	...	...	...	0.7 gramme
Mercuric chloride	...	...	...	0.2 gramme
Extract of violets	...	...	...	4 grammes

187/12. *H. C.*—We do not do analyses unless the results are likely to be of general interest.

112/48. *Pigment*.—Indelible Water used in architects' offices to prevent water-colours running we take to be liquid ox-gall.

98/56. *A. E. M.*—The Dye for Colouring Maggots for fishermen's use is chrysoidine. We have previously referred to its use in the *C. & D.*, September 9, 1899, page 462.

112/27. *N. B. F.*—Solidified Alcohol.—See *C. & D.*, March 23, page 494.

24/90. *Inquirer*.—A single grain of calomel as an alterative is generally given to children over six months old. It is, we believe, the principal constituent of the teething-powders you refer to.

108/19. *J. W. F.*—The first step towards becoming an Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act is to get into the police force. There are no prescribed regulations for the appointment of inspector, which is conferred by merit and selection, sergeants usually getting the vacancies.

99/60 (*Seillæ*) and 113/54 (*F. G. H.*).—(1) The Filtration of Oxymel of Squill is a problem that has vexed many more than yourself. The scum that you refer to is destitute of medicinal activity, and the best way to get rid of it is to filter through the best linen-filtering twill. Special arrangements for filtering are necessary, but on the small scale it is best to allow the oxymel to clear by standing; decant and filter the rest. (2) Etching Acid is either hydrofluoric acid itself or a mixture of ammonium fluoride and sulphuric acid.

76/4. *J. H.*—Thanks for the cutting. The man is not worth notice.

118/47. *Branch Manager*.—We have not for some time heard of Lamplough's-saline stoppers being blown out, but at one time it was a rather common occurrence. The preparation contains potassium chlorate, and this has been suggested as the origin of the "burst."

121/34. *L. S. L.*—Rio or Brazilian Ipecacuanha is the official drug. It is not obtained from *Ionidium Ipecacuanha*; that plant yields white ipecacuanha—a rarely seen article. Cartagena ipecacuanha is the root of *Psychotria Ipecacuanha*, and like the official drug contains emetine and cephaeline, the alkaloids to which the emetic and diaphoretic properties of the drug are due. In the case of the Rio root the two alkaloids are present in the proportion of two of emetine to one of cephaeline, and in Cartagena three of emetine to about four of cephaeline. Cephaeline is a more powerful emetic than emetine.

Coming Events.

Monday, April 15.

Dewsbury and District Chemists' Association, Church House Church Street, Dewsbury, at 8.30 p.m. Monthly meeting.

Tuesday, April 16.

Bradford and District Chemists' Association. Annual dinner.

Wednesday, April 17.

Royal Microscopical Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 p.m.

Mr. F. Enock will give a demonstration of the metamorphoses of *Æschna cyanea*, illustrated by photographs from life.

Newcastle-on-Tyne and District Chemists' Association, Hôtel Métropole, Newcastle, at 8.30 p.m. Mr. G. Merson on "Chemists and the Sale of Food and Drugs Act."

Western Chemists' Association, Westbourne Restaurant, Craven Road W., at 9 p.m. Smoking-concert.

Thursday, April 18.

The Twentieth Junior Pharmacy Ball, Portman Rooms, W., Dancing at 9 p.m. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. L. Cassie, 49 Newgate Street, E.C., supplies tickets.

The Röntgen Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 p.m. Discussion on "X-ray Therapeutics" opened by Miss M. M. Sharpe, L.R.C.P.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, W., at 9 p.m.

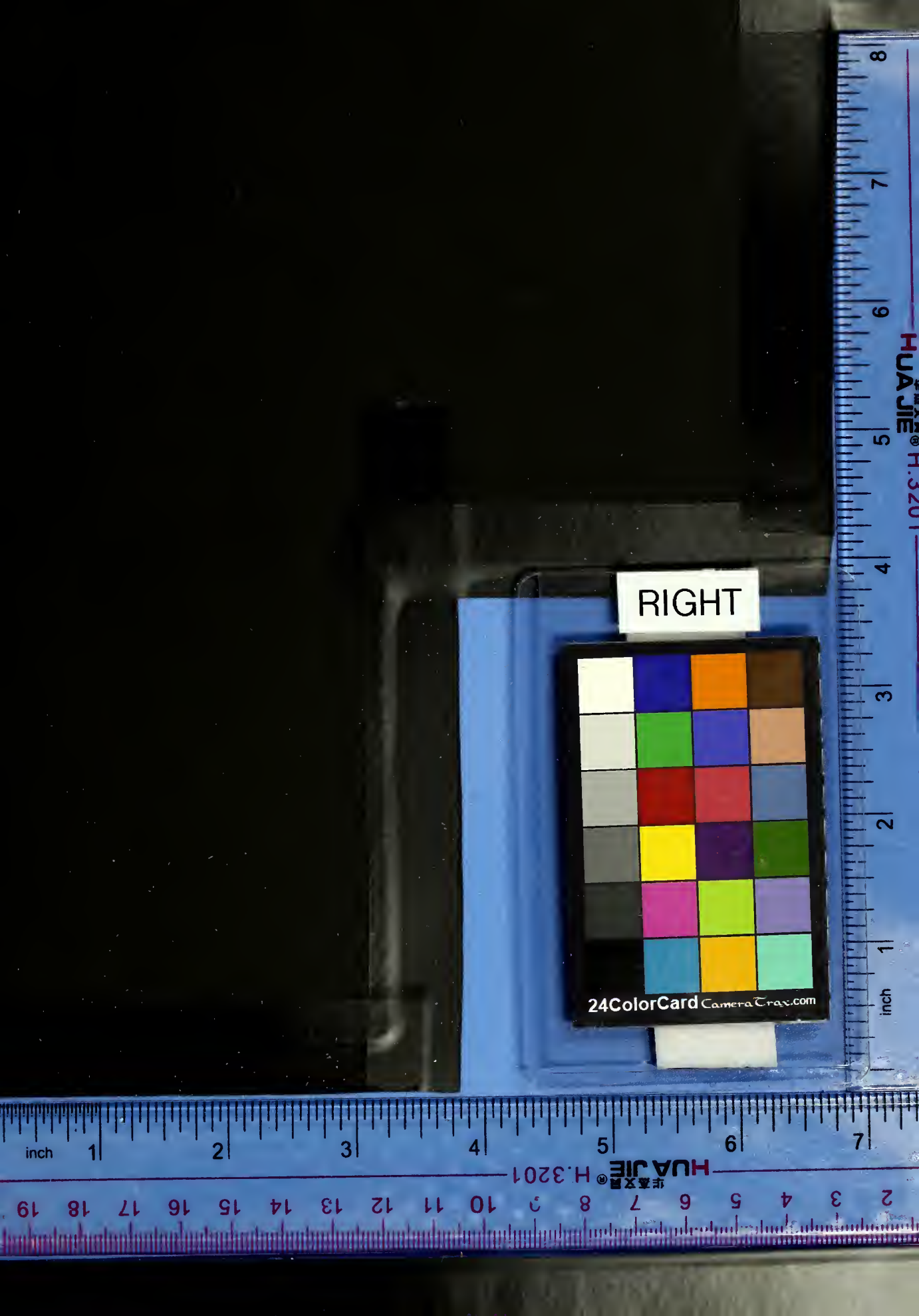
Mr. J. Fothergill on "The Eye."

Leicester Chemists' Social Union. Annual dinner at the Bell Hotel, Leicester, at 8.30 p.m. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, can be had from Mr. F. W. Goodess, 13½ Hotel Street, Leicester.

Friday, April 19.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 9 p.m. Professor J. J. Thomson on "The Existence of Bodies smaller than Atoms."

Chemists and druggists of Hampshire, Wiltshire, and Dorsetshire are to be invited to meet Mr. S. R. Atkins and other officers and members of the Pharmaceutical Society at a meeting to be held in Southampton on April 24. The local arrangements are in the hands of Mr. H. Wilson, F.I.C., F.C.S.



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